

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Mayor Brown To Meet Gays And Lesbians Next Thursday

by Dennis Conkin

Mayor Willie Brown will have a chance to speak directly to members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community at a Thursday, February 15 Town Hall in the Castro.

The two-hour event will be held at Collingwood Recreation Center, located at 100 Collingwood Street at 18th Street, beginning at 6 p.m.

"We wanted an opportunity for real sharing with the mayor very early in his term," said Jonathan Katz, founder of the Harvey Milk Institute and the chair of Gay and Lesbian Studies at City College of San Francisco.

The event is sponsored by the Milk Institute as one of the inaugural programs for its second year spring term, Katz said.

The town hall meeting was organized as a way for the community to meet with the mayor, and also provide an opportunity for the community to find out what Brown's legislative and leadership plans are for a variety of issues such as HIV/AIDS and other concerns.

"Hopefully, it will be an opportunity to find out what the mayor intends on doing," Katz said. "And to try to get as much of a commitment as possible."

Katz says that there will be several items that he is certain will be discussed at the Town Hall.

"Probably the loonies with regard to the F Line will be out in force," he said. "People involved in the community center will be there, and so will people who want a cultural center."

"Surely, police issues will be raised," he added.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano has a previous commitment and will



Mayor Willie Brown

be out of the state when the Town Hall takes place, but Supervisors Susan Leal and Carole Migden will attend.

"I wanted to be able to participate if Willie was going to meet with queers and give the community a chance to talk," Leal said. "Fostering a working dialogue is always productive."

Performing at the community meeting will be comedian Maureen Brownsey and emcee Joan Jett Blakk.

The Harvey Milk Institute is an all volunteer-based educational institute that offers a wide-ranging queer studies curriculum, addressing practical and intellectual matters from car repair to film criticism.

With more than 1,200 students last year, HMI is the largest educational organization of its kind in the world. ▶

For more information about the Town Hall meeting, contact HMI at (415) 552-7200.

ACT UP/LA Crashes Ronald Reagan's Birthday Party

by Karen Ocam

Former President Ronald Reagan didn't make it to his 85th birthday celebration at Chasen's restaurant in West Hollywood Tuesday, February 6 – but 300 protesters did.

The elegant West Hollywood eatery where Reagan proposed marriage to then-actress Nancy Davis was re-opened for the event, with a red carpet and scores of snappy white and blue jacketed valet parkers attending to scores of prominent Republicans who paid \$1,000 a plate for dinner under a big tent in the parking lot.

Across the street, sign-carrying demonstrators organized by ACT UP/LA banged drums, blew whistles, shouted through bullhorns, and created a ruckus about AIDS not seen since the technical end

of the Bush/Reagan years. Many made the point that while Reagan was able to celebrate his birthday, there were thousands dead from AIDS who no longer could.

The protesters yelled in unison chants of "Shame! Shame! Shame!" "Racist, sexist, anti-gay – the GOP has had its day!" and "We are dying – You eat dinner!" They included members from Women's Action Coalition (WAC), Being Alive, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, and students from UCLA and the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. Also on hand were Radical Faeries' Harry Hay, LA City AIDS Coordinator Ferd Eggan, West Hollywood City Councilmember Steve Martin, and scores of people

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Homage to Hardman



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Warren Kopp remembers his partner Paul Hardman during a Feb. 3 memorial service at the Veterans Memorial Building. Gay activist and founder of the Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post 448, Hardman died last month. His ashes were scattered on the memorial cemetery plot following a brief service conducted by members of the Post.

AHP Workers Help PWA Residents After Ambassador Shooting

by Dennis Conkin

A resident of the Tenderloin's Ambassador Hotel has attempted suicide in the wake of the February 2 police shooting of a violent and rampaging convicted sex offender, the Bay Area Reporter has learned.

Information about the condi-

tion of the resident, who jumped from the roof of the building, is sketchy at press time.

Other residents of the hotel are also suffering post-traumatic stress in the wake of the melee and shooting, according to a social worker assigned to the site.

A team of specialist mental health counselors from the AIDS Health Project's Tenderloin-based crisis unit arrived at the residential hotel this week to provide clinically-based crisis intervention and emotional support services for residents.

Almost 100 Ambassador Hotel residents have HIV/AIDS, and many have secondary mental health or substance abuse conditions.

"To tell you the truth," said longtime AIDS activist Tom Calvanese, "I've been doing almost

nothing but crisis intervention with residents since it happened."

Police were called to the Mason Street hotel after Alan Jekyl, a 31-year-old man who was convicted for assault to commit rape in 1991 in Santa Clara County, went berserk and began attacking residents of the hotel early Friday morning. According to authorities, Jekyl is a sex offender who requires registration with law enforcement authorities.

Jekyl, who was the guest of a woman tenant, was shot by the police after he sprayed fire extinguishing chemicals and slammed a fire extinguisher into the face of an officer.

According to reports, Jekyl began acting bizarrely, assaulted his companion, and then crashed into the room of a female resident

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▼Community Dental Update▼



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Xerostoma - Dry Mouth

Reduced salivary flow which results in Xerostoma, or dry mouth, is a common problem among older adults. This condition can be caused by certain medical disorders or by the use of medications, such as antihistamines, decongestants, pain killers and diuretics. It can also be a side effect of radiation treatment. Treatment for Xerostoma usually involves procedures to restore the mouth's moisture.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

ACT UP/SF Says '95 GOP Zap Was Self-Defense

**Republican Responds,
'We Are Not the Catholic Church'**

by Dennis Conkin

A local AIDS activist will try to fight misdemeanor criminal charges stemming from a July 1995 protest at San Francisco Republican Party headquarters with a "necessity defense," according to ACT UP/San Francisco defense attorney Mark Vermeulen.

Activist Dave Pasquarelli is set for jury trial on charges of misdemeanor vandalism and conspiracy in connection with the protest Monday, February 26 in Department 17 of Municipal Court.

During the demonstration, an estimated dozen activists stormed the Van Ness Avenue Republican headquarters; hung effigies of Governor Pete Wilson, Senator Jesse Helms and Attorney General Dan Lungren; and slapped red oil-based hand prints and stickers over walls, computer equipment, and other areas of the office.

Republicans allege that a computer and a printer were both damaged in the incident, and initially estimated the damage at more than \$10,000.

Felony burglary and vandalism charges were reduced to misdemeanors by Municipal Court Judge James McBride. Revised damage estimates currently stand at \$250 for four defendants.

According to Vermeulen, under the necessity defense, a jury can decline to penalize criminal conduct when an individual acts with a sincere and reasonable belief that the action undertaken is necessary to avert a greater harm.

"Particularly in the context of this case," Vermeulen said, "at the time of demonstrators' actions, reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act was facing defeat in Congress, which would lead to the loss of funding for services for people with AIDS."

Had the reauthorization of the bill failed, San Francisco would have lost \$43 million in AIDS services.

Pasquarelli, who has turned down negotiated dispositions in the case, is HIV-positive — and justifies his actions by the Republican Party's involvement in a



Photo: Phil Magness Jr.

What a mess: Chris Bowman surveys the aftermath of the July 1995 demo at SF Republican headquarters.

number of political attempts to kill AIDS funding legislation for people with HIV and AIDS.

"We have had enough business-as-usual when it comes to this pandemic," said ACT UP/SF member Michael Bellefontaine. "Our actions at the GOP headquarters occurred in the context of this very real emergency and were provoked by a notorious bigot who was hell-bent on driving us into the grave."

"We were clearly acting in self-defense and we intend to prove it."

"Bullshit," said gay Repubican Chris Bowman. "Like we've ever passed any resolutions as the

San Francisco Republican Party that were hostile to the gay community."

Bowman said the local Republican chapter was autonomous and independent from entities such as the Republican National Committee — or even the state Republican Party.

"It's not like a military organization or the Roman Catholic Church," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We're not a top-down organization. We don't take orders."

"I was elected [to the Republican Central Committee] by a vote of 4,000 people in my district. We're not hand-picked by Newt Gingrich or Jesse Helms." ▼

Gay/Lesbian Center Meeting Postponed

by Mary Ann Swissler

Gough Street near Market.

Organizers say a conflict with the upcoming President's Day Weekend holiday has forced them to postpone a planned community forum on the proposed Gay and Lesbian Community Center Project until next month. Project chair Scott Shafer told the B.A.R. too many people reported conflicts with the original Sunday, February 18 meeting because it fell on a holiday weekend. "We want to hold it on a day that is accessible to as many people as possible," he said.

The meeting has been rescheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, March 14, in the auditorium at the San Francisco City College Administration Building, located at 33

fore we break ground."

While Redevelopment Agency officials have agreed to buy the site, Shafer said that corporate giving will be the second stage of the project, to pay for the renovation of the Victorian structure already there, along with the construction of a new building.

San Francisco is currently the only major city in California without a designated Gay and Lesbian Community Center. ▼

The Community Center Project may be reached by phone at (415) 241-1526, by mail at 584 Castro St. #450, San Francisco CA 94114, or by e-mail at SFCgaycom@hooked.net.

Valentine's Menu

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Achtenberg To Leave SF?

by Bob Roeher

Roberta Achtenberg will return to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington, the federal agency she left last April to run unsuccessfully for mayor of San Francisco.

The former San Francisco supervisor told the *New York Times* she had discussed her return with Secretary Henry Cisneros and White House staff. An announcement will be forthcoming.

Achtenberg will be returning to an agency where she was both liked and respected. She will not get back her old job, which requires Senate confirmation, but will serve as a senior advisor to Cisneros.

Her partner, Mary Morgan, and their son Benjie, now in the fifth grade, remained in Washington during the mayoral campaign. "I have a job I really like" at the Justice Department, Morgan had said at the time of Achtenberg's resignation. She also voiced the practical concern, "It's the only paycheck we have right now."

Achtenberg has agreed to stay at HUD through the end of the school year. Some speculate she might find a position on Clinton's reelection campaign. Another permanent senior position within the administration likely would not come before a second Clinton term. ▼

New Year's Eve Raid Case Headed to Police Commission

by Dennis Conkin

Disciplinary hearings against six San Francisco Police officers involved in the raid of a private 1994/5 New Year's Eve South of Market AIDS benefit will begin in March, according to a spokesman for the Police Commission.

Lieutenant Manual Baretta told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Police Commissioner John Keker has been assigned the misconduct case, but said no decision had been made as to whether the entire commission, or just Keker, will hear the charges against the officers.

Six officers including Southern Station Police Captain Michael Yalon face discipline ranging from admonishment to termination if the charges — including abuse of force, sexual harassment, and lying to investigators — are sustained by the commission.

The charges stem from what may be the most massive investigation into police misconduct by the city's Office of Citizen Complaints to date, involving the testimony of scores of police officers, complainants, and eyewitnesses to the 1995 raid that Yalon allegedly ordered.

"In the strongest possible terms, I demand that the hearings into these charges be held in front of the entire commission," said Terence Alan, who hosted the benefit.

During the police action, officers allegedly attacked a Santa Cruz woman filming their abuse, threw her to the ground, and stomped her face with a boot;

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Leaving on a jet plane: Roberta Achtenberg, seen here stumping for Municipal Court judge candidate Ron Albers, will soon be returning to the frigid climes of D.C.

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Design Divas

Over 40 architects and designers turned out Feb. 3 at the Photo Metro Gallery on Tehama St. in a driving rain for a reception for a nascent information organization of gay and lesbian design queens. Four months old, it has yet to have a name, structure or program - all of which are being discussed among interested folks. For more information, call 415/541-0344, ext. 230.

Migden Cleans Up PWAs' Water

by Dennis Conkin

Supervisor Carole Migden this week announced that she has obtained a \$1,000 donation from the firm of Perkins-Elmer to purchase water filters to prevent cryptosporidiosis in people with HIV and AIDS.

The water filters are part of the recommendations of Migden's controversial Cryptosporidium Task Force, convened in September 1995.

The task force held hearings last year after dangerous levels of the parasite - which is a major cause of death in people with

AIDS - were found in the San Francisco drinking water supply.

The donation was the first in a series of expected contributions by bottled water companies and other vendors, including McKesson Corporation and Black Mountain Water Company, Migden aide Michael Colbruno said.

"We are responding to requests from the AIDS community to provide filtered water to prevent any possible infection from this deadly parasite," Migden said in a press statement.

"I commend Perkin-Elmer for taking the lead in helping the city

continue its fight against Cryptosporidiosis, and I encourage other businesses to follow their compassionate example."

The money from the donation will be used by the city to purchase filters at locations determined by the Health Department.

Colbruno told the *B.A.R.* that Migden's priorities for the filters were places such as Coming Home Hospice, Maitri AIDS Hospice, Laguna Honda Hospital (which cares for many indigent people with AIDS), Continuum HIV Day Services, and similar agencies. ▼

UC Extension Teaches About Gay/Lesbian Health Needs

PRNewswire

The UC Berkeley Extension in San Francisco has begun a course for healthcare professionals, educators, counselors, and community advocates who are interested in issues facing lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered people. The class "Working with Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgendered People" started Wednesday, February 7 and will run to March 27 at the UC Extension Center, located at 1930 Market Street.

Instructor Elisabeth Gruskin-Ponder also co-teaches "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Health and Culture" at the School of Public Health, UC Berkeley, which

and is currently working on her forthcoming book on the health of lesbians and bisexual women. Guest lecturers from the community will also be featured throughout the course.

Statistics show that members of the gay community are at high risk for life-threatening diseases such as AIDS, cancer, alcoholism, and drug abuse, as well as mental health problems and suicide, but societal prejudice and ignorance of their medical needs often interfere with this population receiving adequate treatment.

The course will help medical and mental health professionals who serve lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered people to increase their knowledge of their

medical and psychological issues. It will address specific health topics such as HIV/AIDS, hate crimes, domestic violence, mental health, substance use and preventive healthcare from a multicultural perspective. Participants will be given an overview of the legal issues relevant to this group, with particular emphasis on healthcare and parenting. ▼

For more information about this and other UC Berkeley Extension health and behavior sciences courses, call (510) 643-6901. The World Wide Web address is <http://www.unex.berkeley.edu:4243>.

Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria Threaten California PWAs

The Centers for Disease Control Clearinghouse

A bacterium that is resistant to antibiotics that has killed people in hospitals on the East Coast seems to be taking hold in California and is responsible for one death, according to the *American Medical News*.

Vancomycin-resistant enterococcus (VRE) is not a problem for

people in good health, according to the *AMN*, but can cause life-threatening infections in people with weakened immune systems, like people with AIDS. There are no drugs to treat the bacteria.

"We're going back to the pre-antibiotic era," said Dr. David Stevens, chief of infection control at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center.

Overuse of antibiotics in the

past 50 years has been blamed for the ability of some strains of organisms to develop resistance to them. VRE spreads through direct contact, and could spread easily in a hospital or nursing home if caregivers are not aware of it.

Soap kills the bacteria, so experts urge healthcare providers to take extreme care to wash their hands to combat infection. ▼

Kaiser Care Discussed at Supervisors' Committee Meeting

by Mary Ann Swisler

A Thursday, February 1 Board of Supervisors committee hearing into medical care offered by Kaiser Permanente for its HIV/AIDS patients resulted in a resolution authorizing the city to inform Kaiser, in writing, about expectations that clients will receive the highest possible level of medical care.

Members of ACT UP/Golden Gate and executives from Kaiser turned out in force at the hearing before the Health, Public Safety and Environment committee, to alternately raise and lower the flag of viral load testing. At the hearing, Jeff Getty of ACT UP/Golden Gate reiterated Kaiser's responsibility to pay for the viral load testing, citing research results showing its superiority over traditional "T-cell testing" of an HIV-positive person's blood.

Kaiser representatives, on the other hand, said that no HMO or insurance company pays for viral load testing because it has not received FDA approval. An announcement made at the Third Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunities Infections in Washington, DC on January 30, two days before the hearing, is hoped to speed approval by both the FDA and insurance carriers, according to Project Inform spokesperson Ben Chang. The product's manufacturer, Chiron Diagnostics in Emeryville, could



Photo: Phil Mazzuca Jr.

Wearing a "Kaiser=Death" cap, Jeff Getty glares at the Kaiser Permanente contingent during a Board of Supervisors hearing on ACT UP's accusations that the health provider neglects its HIV/AIDS patients.

not be reached for comment. [For further information about viral load testing, see related stories on pages 26 and 29.]

ACT UP/Golden Gate members, through literature and at the meeting, refuted a statement by Dr. Phil Madvig, Physician in Chief at Kaiser, that no other HMOs pay for the procedure either. According to a spokesperson for Project Inform, two HMOs

that do pay for the procedure — which costs roughly \$210 per test — are PruCare and Cigna. He added that a complete list has not been compiled.

Speaking on Kaiser's behalf was James A. Pluth, who told the B.A.R. that there is a limited, internal test study for viral load testing available to selected members of Kaiser.

Eliminate the Lottery

A second complaint, that Kaiser does not pay for human growth hormone — which ACT UP/Golden Gate said it has repeatedly heard from HIV/AIDS patients — was quickly solved at the hearing. Kaiser announced that the hormone is now an authorized treatment for its patients with AIDS-related wasting syndrome.

Throughout the two-hour hearing — which was followed by smaller meetings among Kaiser, ACT UP, and Supervisor Tom Ammiano — Kaiser patients and friends of patients with HIV/AIDS spoke glowingly about the high level of care there. Their endorsements prompted Ammiano to comment frequently that the goal of the hearing was to institute universal standards of care, and do away with the "lottery" atmosphere that some Kaiser HIV/AIDS patients have said is a characteristic of its medical care.

"I understand that there's some teleconferencing that goes on [during the year] to bring people up to speed. But I think what we're saying here is that that's not enough and we need some basic restructuring," he said.

The measure authorizing the Director of Health Services to write a letter to Kaiser will be voted on at a February 20 Board of Supervisors meeting, according to Ammiano aide Mike Housh.

If sent, the letter would carry a large measure of political weight,

since Kaiser has one of the larger contracts for San Francisco city and county employees' health-care. ▼

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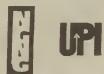
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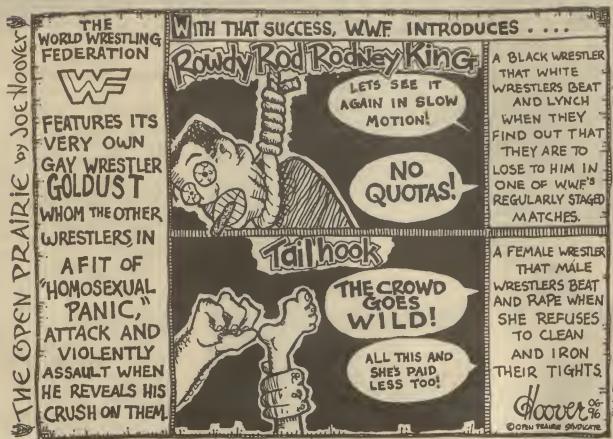
OPEN FORUM

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JOE HOOVER



EDITORIAL

For Richer, For Poorer...

April is supposed to be the time we think of taxes, and June is the traditional time for weddings. So why are we thinking of them in February?

This week a San Francisco newspaper reported that the IRS sets different standards for married couples than for domestic partners. The paper's tone of astonishment at such an inequity, and the front-page space the item was given, made it look like one of our dailies had broken a story of huge importance to the gay and lesbian community. Well, there's no denying the matter is important, but the story is actually an old one.

In fact, the IRS has long differentiated between us and our heterosexual fellow Americans; the latest ruling is merely confirmation of a long-accepted injustice. Domestic partnerships may offer some perks – like being able to visit a loved one in the hospital, which is no small thing when it's the one thing in the world you want, so don't think we're blind to its importance – but a partnership is not a marriage. Only marriage is marriage, legally and fiscally speaking.

The best thing about the recent confirmation of IRS policy is that it starkly illustrates the need for gay marriages. Of course there are prettier arguments to be advanced in favor of gender-neutral marriage laws, having to do with love and commitment and all that, but money still talks loudest to the greatest number of people. We have to learn not to be ashamed to talk about our taxes in public.

Lord knows, everyone else in America is talking about the subject.

There's that huge tax break the Republicans in Washington are trying to give their wealthiest supporters, for a start; as everyone knows by now, the money to pay for it is supposed to come from the pockets of the rest of us. But far from being embarrassed about their actions, freshmen Congressmembers are ballyhooing up to every television camera they can find to talk about taxes. If they can do that, we certainly shouldn't shy away from adding our voices to the discussion.

In fact, *not* referring to the unfair

tax burden placed upon gay couples who have no chance to get married could even be regarded as complicity in the status quo. Homophobic Assemblyperson Pete Knight, who introduced the resolution in Sacramento to ban recognition of same-sex marriages within California, said at one of his press conferences that he felt compelled to do so because of – you guessed it – tax issues. If same-sex couples were treated exactly as heterosexual couples, he said, it would put "too much of a burden" on what is irritatingly referred to as traditional families.

Well, gee, Pete, you're right! Let's put that burden back onto gays and lesbians where it belongs! Let's demand that homosexual citizens pay more taxes for fewer rights and shoulder the costs of an unresponsive government!

Why not just hold us up at gunpoint while you're at it?

And that's the crux of the matter: if someone came to your house and demanded you pay them hundreds of dollars a year because you're queer, you could have them arrested; if a store or restaurant tried to charge you more because of your sexuality, the authorities would intervene. But we live in a system where the authorities themselves are picking our pockets – and demanding that right, and justifying it as a necessary way to prop up the institution of heterosexual marriage.

The only way to put a stop to the not-so-petty larceny you suffer as a gay person is to get angry about it. In the next few days San Franciscans will hold a fundraiser for our friends in Hawaii who are working to legalize same-sex marriages there, as well as a tactical meeting to decide what to do about that proposal in Sacto. (For more information, and a list of some important addresses, see the stories on pages 16-17.) The time to act is now; as mothers will tell you, it's never too early to start planning your own wedding.

And it's never too late for "Mr. Wedding" Knight to learn this truth: he and the other forces of oppression cannot beat us, so they might as well join us in matrimony. ▼

GUEST OPINION

Simply Denial

by Gustavo Medina

I beg to differ with the arguments in Bryan Coyle's January 25 guest editorial "Politics and Denial." His contention that "AIDS is primarily a result of... drinking alcohol, smoking cigarettes, taking recreational drugs, environmental factors, and taking AZT" is almost as silly as the old "queers get AIDS because of track lighting, Levovours, and disco music" joke.

This year I will celebrate 18 years of being HIV-positive. I am still asymptomatic. My t-cell count is around 200. I quit smoking cigarettes in 1972 to save money to go to grad school, but I'll light one up now and then when I'm with friends who smoke. I've tried some recreational drugs, but don't feel a need to use them. I drink moderately. I eat well. I go to the gym three times a week since 1974. I take AZT and 3TC (except on my birthday and national holidays). And I read as much as I can about HIV and related infections.

I've known people who have died of classical AIDS infections within one year of becoming infected with HIV. And a lot of these people did not drink, smoke, take drugs, or use AZT.

I know people now who have been HIV-positive and healthy for at least ten years who drink, drug, smoke, stay out late, take AZT, do not take AZT, work out, would never go to the gym, eat meat, do not eat meat, and so forth.

Yes, I believe that many of the drugs we take to fight HIV are toxic. Some are more toxic than others. And some are more toxic to some people than to others.

If the question is, "How do we stay alive and well once we are diagnosed as being HIV-positive?", then the only answer is that there are no clear answers. The reality is that each one of us is responsible for her or his well-being. And that means being as aware as one can be of how our bodies work individually.

From there, we need to choose from the ever-increasing variety of options in treatment. Whether it's acupuncture, drinking less, exercising more, being less isolated, taking different medications, or no medication, each one of us can only be responsible for his own health. If part of treatment is realizing that one has a drug or alcohol problem and taking action, then it's up to one (me) to do so.

I believe that any serious illness can be more debilitating if one also leads an unhealthy lifestyle – whether it's an excess of booze, drugs, work, food, sex, and so forth. However, we can't blame our excesses alone for something like AIDS.

And, let's face it, "the gay community" does not have exclusive rights to abusive lifestyles.

I appreciate Mr. Doyle's zeal in trying to pinpoint a cause and a cure for this nasty little virus and this horrible epidemic. I certainly wish it were as simple as that. But zeal that results in a doctrinaire mentality that tells me how I must lead my life is useless.

Ultimately, it's the worst kind of denial. ▼

LETTERS

Happy news

When I read bad news, especially about gay people, my head starts to hurt and I feel just awful. When I read good news, though, my heart is light all day. Please print more good news. And lots of photos, especially of attractive people.

I would appreciate it.

Sandy Burnell
San Francisco

Community support

This past year I have been trying to settle my discrimination case against my employer, which has been difficult at best. I talked with several attorneys about my case who ended up having a very limited or no interest at all.

However, I did find the help that I needed through Brian Cheu of the Human Rights Commission and eventually Mark Epstein, Esq. of Castro Legal Services. Both of these people provided me with a lot of support, knowledge and compassion through this time period.

I wish to publicly acknowledge and thank both of these great individuals for their time and effort provided to me.

Steven D. Keller
San Francisco

Shavian insinuations, refuted

Over the last few months, I've read letters from writers who have viciously and personally attacked individuals or organizations (such as Project Inform) who have dared to publicly hold views contrary to theirs concerning HIV treatment. While I find this negativity and these personal attacks disheartening, unnecessary, and a monumental waste of time, it is particularly disturbing when writers conveniently ignore and misrepresent the facts in their zealous diatribes while apparently in pursuit of some undisclosed agenda.

On November 23, the *B.A.R.* published a letter from me citing a study indicating that four out of six patients using AZT & DDI in combination had experienced a significant decline in viral replication in both the lymph nodes and bloodstream. PSNA USA 92(14):6017-6021. The purpose of my letter was not to promote the use of nucleoside analogs or further any particular treatment agenda. Instead, it was to correct a public misstatement put forth as *gospel truth* in a letter from Bill Webber published by the *B.A.R.* on November 9, i.e., that there was *no evidence* that nucleoside analogs did anything to reduce HIV viral replication in the lymph nodes. I felt it was important that HIV positive individuals considering their treatment options be aware of this information.

(For the record, I don't personally believe or advocate that all HIV+ individuals should be taking combination nucleoside analogs such as AZT/DDI, etc. This is a personal treatment decision, which needs to be made after an individual has had the opportunity to carefully consider all treatment options.)

Unable to refute the facts of the study I cited, Mr. W. Fred Shaw of San Diego unleashed a personal attack on me through a letter to the *B.A.R.* (January 25) (1) by stating I distorted information to make the reader believe that AZT and other analogs work and (2) calling me a hypocrite for not disclosing that I am supposedly a current member of the board of directors of Project Inform.

You want facts, Mr. Shaw? Let's deal with facts. (1) I didn't distort anything. The study I quoted did find a significant reduction in viral load in the lymph nodes of four out of six patients using AZT & DDI, and I provided the citation so this information could be checked. (2) Contrary to your representation, I am not a member of the board of directors of Project Inform. I left the board of Project Inform more than one year ago in order to devote more time to other life interests such as reading, music, and travel.

Your insinuation that the information I offered is somehow "tainted" or colored by my prior association with Project Inform is a cheap shot and is also insulting and demeaning. Let's be clear about one thing, Mr. Shaw. I do have tremendous respect for the work done by Martin Delaney, Project Inform, and its hundreds of unpaid volunteers. This doesn't mean that I have always agreed with everything espoused by the organization concerning HIV treatment options, because I do have a mind of my own. However, I have found Project Inform's message of hope and optimism through informed treatment options to have had a positive impact on the lives of many HIV+ individuals. I wonder how many HIV+ individuals volunteer their time to work with you, Mr. Shaw?

There's an old saying in the law that when the facts are on your side, then you argue the facts. If you don't have the facts, then you argue the law. If neither the facts nor the law are on your side, then you attack your opponent. Your continuing willingness to attack the messenger because you don't like the message speaks volumes about your approach to a rational discussion. It appears that all you want to do is to throw as much shit up against the wall in the hope that some will stick.

Well, Mr. Shaw, quite frankly your approach stinks!

Curtis Ponzi
San Francisco

SOS 911

Question: How do we, as a community, get our needs met? Answer: By making them known! We, as a community, tend to be reactive rather than proactive in a great many situations. Frankly, I'm exhausted from "putting out fires," rather than preventing them.

This past Sunday while driving home from a wonderful afternoon emceeing at the Eagle, I came upon a car accident that had just happened. The driver was bleeding from his head and obviously dazed. I called 911 and here's the scenario: 911 answered their phone and asked for a description of what had occurred. They then said they would have to connect me with the police instead. The police then asked for a full description of what happened. Once again, I went through the whole thing again. The police then told me they would have to connect me to the paramedics! Meanwhile, this poor guy is sitting in his car dazed and bleeding. Indulge me here folks, this ain't over yet! Now the phones to the paramedics were not working, so the police "took the message" and said they would somehow forward it to the paramedics!

Folks, we live in a city which is unfortunately home to many people too ill to go through what I was put through. Many people who call 911 for help are in need of immediate assistance, and have neither the time nor the inclination to wait for an antiquated emergency system to rise to its level of incompetence.

We now have a new mayor who has made a lot of promises to his constituency. It's our obligation to hold him to these promises. So far his solution to crime on public transportation is to put gay members on each bus and train to insure our safety! These being the same people who bash for sport, I somehow find this idea reprehensible! Certainly, don't wear the wrong color to work, you don't want to become the victim of your protector. Am I crazy, or is this the stupidest thing you've ever heard?

C'mon, Mr. Mayor, stop being a career politician and become one of us. We don't want violent criminals put in charge of our protection, nor do we want to live with an emergency system that kills.

Irwin Kane
SF Leather Daddy X

Baiting the D.A.

From safely behind the anonymity of the editorial page, a *Chronicle* editor crudely attempts to bait District Attorney Hallinan: "fearful of fired personnel going hostile, remains behind closed doors throwing jabs and roundhouse rights at menacing shadows." ("Our Fighting D.A.," editorial, January 25, 1996.) Why? Because he very logically posted an investigator at his office to discourage retaliation by any of the deadwood deputy D.A.s San Franciscans elected Hallinan to get rid of.

Was Dan White a "menacing shadow?" In a city world-famous for its political assassinations, the *Chronicle*, fearless defender of the rich and powerful, shows its true colors with this highly irresponsible gang-banger macho wannabe editorial. It just can't stand the idea of a D.A. who has sworn to prosecute its homeboys: the corporate and political criminals, and their bumper crop of killer cops they use to intimidate the population and keep it smartly in line.

Larry Kisinger
San Francisco

Allito family values

[The following letter was sent to Supervisor Angela Allito:]

I am both concerned and puzzled by your "family values" comment in our *Santa Rosa Press Democrat* (1/21/96) front page article.

Starting in the first paragraph, you seem to be knocking the City by saying: "San Francisco isn't a city of families. I'd love it to be a city of more families, but it's not a city of families." What's this mean? For whose benefit are you saying these "back to nature" lines (spoken as some Jane Austen heroine might babbled forth when visiting the agricultural hinterlands)?

Pandering to right wing voters in your new suburban district is definitely *not* the way to appeal to gay Democrats, of which there are many. We all stood up to Quayle on his narrow definition in the TV sitcom *Murphy Brown* fuss - didn't you learn to be careful to employ "code words?"

Families, Angela, here as well as in the City come in all sexual orientations; not just breeders have children, you know. Gay dads I know, as a retired teacher here, work hard to raise their kids and send them off to college. Lesbians comprise "families" up here - albeit not your style of "nuclear family" as an exclusivity which your remark seems to buttress.

Subliminal appeals to us "country folk" in Sonoma County with what you view to be a vote-getting ploy to get votes of "typical families" are *not* going to win you the liberal votes you need to defeat John Burton in the Democratic March 26 primary (where Democratic registration is now four of five registered voters in this state senate district).

Since I also found your photo on Page 1 of the *B.A.R.* opposing Sacramento bills to bar legal status here to gay marriages conducted in Hawaii in the future, could you please give us a clarification?

Earle Taylor
Petaluma

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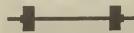
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LETTERS

Faulty theology

The city gives Glide Methodist Church thousands upon thousands of dollars a year for its programs for the homeless. The United Methodist Church has in its ethical statements some of the most homophobic statements of any main-line denomination.

Take a peek at all that city money going to church groups, Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Lutherans and Presbyterians, etc. who are homophobic in their theology.

Don't just pick on the [Salvation] Army!

Robert Warren Cromey
San Francisco

Cruel correctness

The current tug of words between the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the local division of the Salvation Army seems to be long on political rhetoric and short on facts. Others may address the quality of service rendered to those in need in the city by the Army. I wish to address the issue of homophobia as practiced where it really counts: one-on-one.

By way of background, I am a born-again Christian, theologically conservative in belief and evangelical in practice. I have been a practicing Christian, self-avowed since June 7, 1962. I am also a gay man, coming to this realization after a tumultuous adolescence at a midpoint during the decade of the 1960s. I was a student minister in the Free Methodist Church in my youth, a church out of the same theological current as the Salvation Army. I am currently the West Coast coordinator of the Wesleyan Holiness Gay and Lesbian Network, ministering to the needs and support of those gays and lesbians from backgrounds in the Church of the Nazarene, Free Methodist, Wesleyan, Brethren in Christ, Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) and the Salvation Army. I am also editor of the *Summer Breakers*, the newsletter of the San Francisco United Methodist Mission, an umbrella organization of all the United Methodist Churches in The City, and a member of Calvary United Methodist Church. I lived in San Francisco from May 1979 until October 1995.

In January 1988, I was elected to the board of directors of the Christian AIDS Council of San Francisco, a ministry supported by the San Francisco Association of Evangelicals. The council came into existence in order to present an evangelical Christian presence in the face of the AIDS crisis. The original intent was to do so in an nonjudgmental posture as possible. Subsequently, I was elected by the board to the office of chairman. Throughout my involvement, I did not divulge my sexual orientation, under the assumption that it really made no difference to the overall purpose of the ministry. In July of that year, my orientation became known to one of the other board members, who brought the matter to the attention of the board. A motion was prepared, and I was summarily ejected. Of the nine votes on the board, only two were cast in favor of my retention: my own and that of Envoy Patrick Granat of the Salvation Army.

In conversation and correspondence before, during, and after this vote and expulsion, Envoy Granat exhibited no overt hostility, disdain, or homophobic attitudes toward me, nor did he at any time denigrate or deny the authenticity of my faith. He and I understood each other's biblical background and evangelical faith, though we agreed to disagree on the singular issue of homosexuality. I received nothing but support, comfort, understanding, and acceptance by Envoy Granat. From his attitude and behavior, I could only assume that the Salvation Army, despite its well-publicized "position" regarding the issue of homosexuality, did not practice discrimination against gays and lesbians when it came to its ministry of service.

Therefore, I believe that it does fine organization a gross disservice to equate long-standing, traditionalist, theological, and moral viewpoints with a propensity to discriminate against gays and lesbians when no evidence exists to validate such an accusation. If the Salvation Army were to open a "change" ministry aimed at converting gays and lesbians into heterosexuals, and applied for grants from the city to fund it, I would be one of the first to call for denial of such funds. But this is not the case. The Army is only requesting the board of supervisors place their stamp of approval on funds already approved by the federal government and earmarked for use in homeless shelters. To withhold city approval on the basis of old, out-of-date documents which do not form the basis for day-to-day ministry and service is just playing politics with the fears and anxieties of the gay community. Giving a blanket or bathrobe to an economically challenged citizen is neither designed nor expected to turn them into a Bible-thumping, self-hating fundamentalist. Denying the approval of these funds will in fact impact mostly those for whom the funds are meant in the first place: the homeless. Can anti-Christian political correctness be more cruel? A point to ponder...

P. Thomas Cahill
Berkeley, CA

[The editor responds: We reject the idea that fighting the explicit homophobia of the Army is (in Cromey's words) "picking on" it, or (in Cahill's words) "anti-Christian." Glad to hear Envoy Granat didn't take you out into the alley and burn you at the stake, but does that justify the presence of his group's hateful "guidelines?" And is it really wise for the Supes to give it a "stamp of approval?"]

Monstrous behavior

In response to "Upset Stomach" (Letters, 1/18), and to the ongoing criticism of the Salvation Army and such Holy of Holies as Glide and Cecil W., I'd like to wholeheartedly thank Supervisor Tom Ammiano and the *Bay Area Reporter* for exposing some of the Holy hypocrites that take our taxes and spit on us as human beings. Miss Stomach can go back in her closet if she doesn't like the truth.

Chris K., whom you interviewed about the treatment he received at the Salvation Army, was and is a close friend of mine. His treatment was not a rare case. I took a young man I was sponsoring in a recovery program and allowing to stay in my home while he was getting back on his feet down to the Salvation Army assistance program on Ninth Street. We were told that we could get some assistance with food there. I was able to pay rent and utilities and expenses for myself, but an additional mouth to feed was not in my budget at that time. My friend and I were dressed normally, jeans, shirts, shoes, etc., and behaved in an honest, friendly manner. Our male case-worker treated us like we were dirt. The disdain, the hatred towards us was not veiled. He very begrudgingly conceded to give us a sparse bag of groceries and told us, "Don't ever come back. We don't want your kind around here."

We left, mumbly thanks, with our heads down. Feeling less than human. And no human being who has done nothing wrong should ever be made to feel like that. And, if the organization is taking the tax money from the community – which does include the money of the gay and lesbian community – then such cold-hearted, bigoted behavior should be examined and put out for the public to judge. Thank the Divine Mother that we have a Free Press.

Sending our tax money to the Salvation Army is no different than sending it to the Ku Klux Klan. Both organizations denounce members of the human race as being less than human and push for harm and punishment to be given to those who are the wrong color, nationality, religion or sexual orientation.

We all have to take a stand against such monstrous behavior. If we don't, the fascists are still waiting in the wings to put us all back into brand new camps with brand new, modern ovens. And personally, I can easily envision men and women dressed in Salvation Army Uniforms guiding us into the camps, in the name of Jesus.

A. R. Anderson
San Francisco

Bus driver from Hell

Getting off a Muni bus recently, visibly shaken up, I was surprised when three people in a store I entered said, "You must have ridden with her!"

The large hulk of a driver they referred to is one I'll never ride with again, no matter how long a wait. This hulk yells, is rude and insults people. Her standard answer to everyone starts with, "Are you driving this bus?" She then keeps up a barrage at them, so everyone backs down.

Getting off I tried to tell her I was a gay man, and some people may hate me, but I have to cope, etc. I got out "gay man" and she said, "Are you having your monthly trouble?"

As I got off at Stockton and Columbus, in the mob getting on I hear, "It's her – wait for another bus."

Like the fog over Twin Peaks, she flows over the wheel and controls. On weekends her two little girls sit in the elderly front seats and are told not to move. I feel sorry for the two innocent children. They sit there and don't move at all. They look scared to death.

If you see this massive lump of discomfort and two small children sitting in front seats, don't board. There's sure to be a disagreement somewhere along the route. She refuses to give her number, but yelled out, "If anyone wants to report me, there's the bus number up there."

Perhaps she's having a breakdown. What's taking so long?

Chuck Kennedy
San Francisco

Ice cream and homophobia

If Ben & Jerry's opens a franchise in the Castro, they may be bringing in more than ice cream. I live across the street from their franchise in the Haight. It's become a major magnet for street people who have done everything they can to trash the neighborhood. They push drugs to all passers-by, fight each other in loud, drunken brawls, smash bottles on the street, pound on bongos in the middle of the night, crap and piss on the sidewalk, and harass women and gay people. (Walk by some time, and take a look for yourself.)

Recently, I've seen more and more of these same people coming to the Castro. They get space change from lesbians and gay men during the day, then take the 33 Ashbury bus back to Ben & Jerry's at night, making homophobic remarks all the way.

Neighbors in the Haight have long pleaded with Ben & Jerry's to assume some responsibility for the situation in front of their store. They've turned us a deaf ear – yet pretend to be community-conscious!

Before Ben & Jerry's moves into new neighborhoods, I suggest they clean up their act in the old ones.

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

Carole Migden, Superstar

When the SF Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a measure last week allowing homosexual couples to have "wedding" ceremonies at City Hall recognizing their domestic partnerships, Supervisor Carole Migden, author of the ordinance, became an overnight national lesbian political celebrity. Mayor Willie Brown is expected to sign the measure into law, and the first domestic partnership ceremony could take place as early as April. While gay and lesbian couples taking part in the rites will not be legally married, the measure complements a 1991 city law that gives couples registered as domestic partners certain legal benefits, including hospital visitation rights, etc.

Commentary

"The legislation will allow domestic partners - lesbians, gays, and others - to formalize their relationships with a civil ceremony," said Migden, adding that "San Francisco is once again illustrating that this is a humane, compassionate and equal-opportunity city for all who live here." The supe went on to say that "what we're doing here is offering a celebratory aspect of the proceeding that isn't just a paperwork registration. It's a joyful occasion that can be celebrated by family and loved ones. It's fair to say it's a wedding of sorts."

What the measure will do for relationships of gays, lesbians, and others in San Francisco is one thing; what the highly publicized ordinance did for Carole Migden's political career is another. Already headed for a sure seat in the California State Assembly next month, Migden's authoring and herding the measure through the board by a unanimous vote brought her publicity most political press aides only dream of. United Press International picked up a photo of a smiling Migden (wearing an AIDS ribbon) sitting at her desk as the votes were counted. The photo was carried in nearly every major newspaper in the country, including a color front-page spot in the powerful *Los Angeles Times*.

Migden spoke on radio shows, gave television interviews aplenty, and even had a guest spot on Oliver North's program via hookup from D.C. The North show is carried on some 300 radio stations in large city markets around the country. What did Ollie North think of San Francisco's new ordinance? Well, according to Migden, North was, of course, "opposed, but not impolite."

I know Carole Migden has her political enemies in this city (mostly within our own community). However, despite a manner that some call brash ("tough" would seem more accurate) and ambition that seemingly knows no bounds, I have to say I think she is one damned smart, effective, and caring public servant who serves the gay and lesbian community in particular and The City in general very well.

Politics and people

At City Hall rumors are already circulating as to who Da Mayor will appoint to fill soon-to-be Assemblywoman Migden's supe seat. The name heard most often is Mark Leno, a popular



If my friends could see me now: media darling Carole Migden.

civil rights activist with an excellent reputation in the gay/lesbian community. A fine choice by all accounts.

You won't read this in Pat Stenger, but one of the more unusual parties (wakes?) I've attended in years was last Monday when Warren Hinckle gave a good-bye party at Stars for his beloved bas-set hound, Bentley, probably the town's most famous dog. Bentley's friends of many years, who turned out in droves, included D.A. Terence Hallinan, Jack Davis, Sheriff Mike Hennessey, Ted Fang, Carole Vernaire (Herb Caen's longtime aide), Margo St. James, Annemarie Connroy, Carole Stuart and numerous other notables. A good time was had by all. (Well, actually, the honoree himself didn't seem any too thrilled, but perhaps under the circumstances, that's understandable.)

Gay and lesbian activists in Oregon are still celebrating Representative Ron Wyden's (D) election in a special U.S. Senate race last week. Wyden, a strong supporter of gay rights, defeated an ultra-conservative, anti-gay Republican by a cat's whisker for a seat formerly held by a Republican (the disgraced Bob Packwood).

Only last month Candace Gingrich did a cameo spot as a minister marrying two lesbians on the hit *Friends*, now her brother Newt Gingrich gets to do something Dan Quayle could only dream of: butt heads with Murphy Brown on her highly rated show. Gingrich plays himself on the *Candace Bergen* sitcom in a scene where he confronts the brassy TV journalist backstage after she mocks him at a Washington roast. The Newster taped the segment while attending Ronald Reagan's 85th birthday party in L.A. this week. No broadcast date has been set.

House Speaker Gingrich, orating at a banquet in D.C. last week, stopped short of an endorsement but openly praised stealth candidate Steve Forbes as a "genuine risk-taker." The powerful if no longer so popular Newt later mocked conventional wisdom among reporters that Bob Dole would win the GOP nomination. The Dole camp issued a terse "no

comment" in response. Gingrich never passes up an opportunity to nettle the slipping Dole or vice versa.

She's supposedly way behind in most polls and way behind in campaign funds (trailing by a huge amount, with \$40,000 versus half a million for her opponent), but Angela Alioto, a fierce fighter, is campaigning day and night in hopes of upsetting John Burton in the primary race next month for retiring Milton Marks's state senate seat.

Who will President Clinton put in charge of the all-important California re-election effort? Clinton knows he cannot be re-elected without carrying this state, and plans on spending long days and big bucks here. Bill Carrick and Kam Kuwata are on the short list for state boss. Some reports have Da Mayor (Willie Brown) angling for the prestigious post, but too many Clinton loyalists remember some of the not-so-kind remarks Brown has made about the prez in the past. After all is said and done, look for White House adviser John Emerson to be calling the shots, despite a conflict-of-interest/ethics law.

In Sacramento, a big feud is brewing between probable Demo gubernatorial contenders Lieutenant Governor Gray Davis and state Controller Kathleen Connell. These two really don't like each other. And the rumor that Senator Dianne Feinstein might come back and be the real choice of the party continues to gather steam.

A bit of Hollywood gossip for all you lovers as Valentine's Day approaches: the artist formerly known as Prince says he will marry his backup singer, maybe, Feb. 14 in Paris. Nothing like Gay Paree to put one in a romantic mood, I always say.

Correction: In an item last week about San Jose figure skating champion Rudy Galindo "admitting" he was gay, I should have said "acknowledging." Being gay is nothing one should have to "admit" to, only to be proud of. (My overworked editor usually catches these, but thanks to those readers who pointed it out - especially you, Randy.) Sorry for my gaffe, folks. ▼



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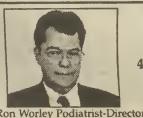
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SAPPHISTICATION

Playing the Dyke Card

by Beth Elliott

Huzzah for Laurie McBride! Huzzah, huzzah! Somebody finally played the dyke card, huzzah! Okay, so it was just Burns Day, and the above sounds way bonnie if read aloud wi' a good Scots burrrrrr: Huzzah for Laurie McBride! The point, however, is that someone finally had the janies to play the dyke card.

Commentary

In the debate over an Assembly bill to deny state recognition of same-gender marriages performed elsewhere in the Union, our bonnie Laurie, a lobbyist with the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality in Sacramento, countered the argument that homosexuality is "a dangerous lifestyle" by pointing out that lesbians have fewer sexually transmitted diseases and longer relationships than any other demographic group. She went on to tweak religious right noses even further by adding, "All of us should strive, or do well to strive, to become lesbians." Well doon, lassie! Ye'r all rickt, ye ken? An' we're proud o' ye.

Well, I hope we are. She wielded a formidable weapon in the war to position same-gender relations and sexuality (yeah, yeah, yeah, and any culture appertaining thereto, so get off my back already) — a weapon, alas, not often wielded by the people (you 'n' me, sisters and brothers) whose lives



Photo: Rick Gerlander

Laurie McBride

and rights it could mighty defend. And why, you might ask (or at least I hope you will ask), is not the dyke card played wherever and whenever evil slanderers arise to strike us down and deny us equal rights? Why, because it is *politically incorrect* to (1) imply some populations are less threatened by HIV than others and especially (2) make anyone — especially lesbians — look "better" than anyone else — especially gay men.

Pigheaded and stupid

Now, you may at this point find yourself asking, "Gee, Bethie, since even the CDC knows that while the possibility of female-to-female sexual transmission of HIV cannot be discounted it hasn't been proven and is considered extremely unlikely, and since we're the tiniest micropercentage of the epidemic, and since meanwhile the religious right is trying to position us queer folk as a public health menace to be abated, doesn't it make sense to push lesbians forward as the face of American homosexuality to pull the rug out from under those lavender menace types, especially when legislation is riding on it? And wouldn't refusing to do that when our lives and rights are on the line be kind of, you know, pigheaded and stupid?"

And I would reply, "Why yes, it's way stupid, and let's leave it at that, because people have been that stupid for a long time; exacerbating the hell out of bright, freedom-loving, girl-kissing gals like myself, and you really don't want to get me started on what I think of this stupidity because I'll come off as even more of a sarcastic bitch than usual — if such a thing is possible."

Sigh... in case you haven't noticed, public policy is often determined less by technocratic engineering and policy wonking than it is by the voting public's perceptions. Often, the electorate or the legislature will do something that may seem less effective or more costly on paper in order to *send a message* (uh, uh, uh — don't jump to conclusions; some conservatives pray for demonstrations to play off of. Think: George Bush wrapping the Gulf War in the flag).

If public perceptions are as easily manipulated as the critics of "Madison Avenue" claim, what good does it do to be nitpicky about the fine points of political correctness when we could easily use the same techniques ourselves? Too many lesbian/gay activists remind me of Tom Lehrer's "Folk Song Army" — thrilled that even though Franco "won all the

battles/We had all the good songs!"

Class and sexuality

The public perceptions of lesbians and gay men differ, but the difference is pretty much a wash in the end — not that you'd know that from the way activists can act like children tattling on each other to look the best in mommy's eyes. When it comes to class perceptions, gay men come off decidedly better. Their public image is of good taste, artistic sensibility, offering charming, sensitive male companionship to straight women without straight male cluelessness. (Don't you just hate it when straight women fawn over their gay male friends but react to lesbians as though we're disgusting?) Lesbians, on the other hand, come off as déclassé — the bumbling, uncouth dyke; Chris Farley in comfortable shoes.

However, when it comes to sexuality, the tables are turned. Gay men face not only the perception of men who are "unmanned" by their sexual practices, but as being gross squared in a frat house beer bust only with dicks and butholes kind of way.

Lesbians, on the other hand, perhaps because women can be more physically affectionate (yes, it is unfair) and women together are perceived more as sexually harmless, are not as sexually stigmatized. So, our public image is more of the public figure who showed courage in coming out, becoming even more beloved for still loving their non-gay public — think Martina, k. d. lang and Melissa Etheridge.

I'm exasperated when women grouse about "lesbian chic." Hey! Wake up! We can play off lesbian chic and those sitcom lesbian weddings, big time! Here's an idea: *Let's let the public form its assumptions about the average homosexual from these mass media images!* Duh! Let's let them think that if they vote against same-sex marriages, they're hurting poor, sweet Ellen DeGeneres. Duh! Can we knock this lob pitch out of the park, *please*? Repeat after me: "I'd rather have rights than be right!"

With all due respect to the male ego (i.e., none whatsoever), sweet, beautiful young men in love don't mean squat in Peoria. A spunky young woman holding her head high and smiling bravely through coming out to America on network television is approaching Hallmark card material. Which image do you want in our lawmakers' minds? Let's get off our politically correct hindquarters and play the dyke card. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

SF Patient Is 2nd Recipient in U.S. Drug Treatment for Breast Cancer

by Mary Ann Swissler

A San Francisco woman is scheduled to become the second in the country to receive an experimental drug for metastatic breast cancer, after receiving final approval last week from an internal review board at UCSF Medical Center.

Breast cancer oncologist Dr. Debasish Tripathy confirmed that the "Her2/neu" treatment the woman will receive today (Thursday, February 8) has so far only been given to a Chicago woman in an advanced stage of breast cancer. The FDA approved the drug on January 16 for a compassionate release program through the drug's manufacturer, Genentech.

The whole approval process through UCSF took about a month after receiving the protocol from Genentech, Tripathy said. In the case of cancer, the university tries to have emergency protocols already in place depending on the clinical applications. According to ACT UP/Golden Gate member Marilyn McGregor, they should be immediately applied in the case of breast cancer patients.

"We're very glad that the approval has come," McGregor told the B.A.R., "but it's truly important to have a national Internal Review Board so it doesn't have to go through all these boards." AIDS treatments are currently expedited this way, she said.

Even a week is extremely critical in late-stage breast cancer pa-



Breast cancer oncologist Dr. Debasish Tripathy.

tients, McGregor said, since major organ failure or the spread of cancer would disqualify someone from getting the drug. "Cancer is treated as a non-emergency. AIDS on the other hand, because of the infectious nature, is treated as an emergency," she said.

"They have to have this same sense of urgency with late-stage cancer with these experimental drugs."

McGregor said, "We really need to educate our constituency" about this and other unresolved issues, to create nationwide application standards. One hospital in Texas, for example, did not want

to administer the Her2/neu — because the treatment involved infusions every week.

"If this is indeed the reason," McGregor said, "this is near-criminal, that women cannot be treated because of some sort of convenience thing for a hospital."

Tripathy estimated that approximately five or six patients will be treated over the next year. "We'll certainly put on as many people as we think might benefit," he said, but cautioned, "Only about 20 percent of breast cancer patients make the particular protein Her2/neu in their tumor cells, to respond to the drug." ▼

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GLAAD

Courting Censorship

by Al Kielwasser

The Supreme Court has declined to review government regulations intended to "protect" children from "indecent" broadcasts. Current Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules limit certain "adult" content to broadcast between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The court's decision was made despite widespread opposition to the FCC rules. "These regulations are trying to offer the services of the federal government as a national babysitter," said R. B. Quinn of the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center.

The nation's largest newspaper, *USA Today* (circulation 6 million), also editorialized against the decision. In a January 11 editorial ("When Government Acts As Censor, Freedoms Crumble"), the newspaper noted that the Supreme Court has left "advocates of censorship a fresh opening to practice their mischief."

If the Federal Communications Commission is now pushed into becoming the national decency police, what next?" the paper asked. "The power to censor repeatedly creates its own excess."

USA Today also published an "opposing view" by Donald Wildmon, president of the American Family Association. What others deem a "loss of freedom," Wildmon said, is actually "insurance for civility." He argued, "Some people, including the editorial board of this paper, are upset that the Supreme Court set restrictions on what can be broadcast during certain hours of the day. ... They

say it is the parents' responsibility to protect their children. I say it's a shared responsibility. They say the decision hurts society. I say it helps."

Beyond his inaccurate claim that the Supreme Court (rather than the FCC) "set restrictions," Wildmon's argument could not be more hypocritical. He, like other Right Wing censors, is a "parents' rights" absolutist when it comes to homosexuality. Wildmon has frequently argued, for example, that textbooks should not include fair and accurate references to homosexuality, since it is a parent's absolute right to teach or not to teach such things.

The "protection of children" theme is ubiquitous, and has already become central in emerging efforts to regulate new media. The Washington legislature, for example, has considered several bills intended to censor and criminalize "materials harmful to minors," including HB2267, "An Act Relating to the Well-Being of Children" (which proscribes a broad range of "materials" from "the depiction of covered male genitals in a discernibly turbid state" [Sec.1.(4)], to modest HIV and sex-education curricula).

Speaking at a New York panel on "Internet Regulation" (Jan. 21), Shabbir Safdar, of Voters Telecommunications Watch (VTW), pointed to a key threat that adheres in many regulatory efforts. He said: "Look at what they're proposing and try to discern, are they really interested in keeping children away from this material, or are they interested in keeping you from expressing it? The First Amendment protects your right to express yourself. It does not protect a parent's right to reshape the world into their own version of Romper Room."

Contact: *USA Today*, 1000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington VA 22229, tel. 703-276-3400, fax 703-247-3108, e-mail editor@usatoday.com; Donald Wildmon, President, American Family Association, P.O. Drawer 2440, Tupelo MS 38803, tel. 601-844-5036, fax 601-844-9176, e-mail amfamily@ebicon.net; Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, Vanderbilt University, Nashville TN 37235; Shabbir J. Safdar, Advisory Board Member, Voters Telecommunications Watch, tel. 718-596-2851, e-mail shabbir@VTW.ORG.

Murky Reporting

An article in the *San Jose Mercury News* ("Woman's Search for Son End With Identification of Remains," Jan. 13) concocts unfounded connections between murder and "the world of sadomasochism." The reporter, Jim Dickey, describes a woman's six-year "search for her gay son," Oliver McDade, whose body was found the previous week — "dismembered and placed in three plastic garbage bags."

Dickey quotes a "friend" who describes the deceased as "heavily into leather and bondage." Dickey reports: "When he disappeared, McDade left behind an apartment splattered in blood and containing sadomasochistic tools such as chains, a whip and a paddle."

Through such biased overtures, Dickey suggests that McDade's murder was the direct result of an essentially dangerous lifestyle — "in the gay leather community." Of course, it is much more likely that the deceased was the victim of a homophobe hate crime than a homosexual lover.

Contact: Jerry Ceppos, Executive Editor, *San Jose Mercury News*, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose CA 95190, tel.

408-920-5000 or 415-852-9139, e-mail JCEPPS@aol.com, URL <http://www.sjmercury.com>.

Bad Times

The *Contra Costa Times* has rejected an advertisement for a gay/lesbian matchmaking service because the ad used the words "gay" and "lesbian." The simple ad contained no pictures or graphics. The text stated: "Single? Quality Partners — Personal Introductions for Lesbians and Gay Men."

According to Maura Rothman, president of Quality Partners, Inc., the *Times* suggested that she should use the words "alternative lifestyles" to describe her clientele. "I just can't believe it," said Rothman, "These 'standards' just seem so unfair."

Contact: John Armstrong, Executive Managing Editor, *Contra Costa Times*, 2640 Shadelands Drive, Walnut Creek CA 94598, tel. 510-935-2525, fax 510-933-0239; copy your correspondence to Maura Rothman, Quality Partners, P.O. Box 234, Orinda CA 94563-0234, tel. 510-253-4848.

Expanded Coverage

In an article announcing the premiere of *Blacklines* magazine ("New Lesbian, Gay Magazine Targets Blacks," Jan. 23), *Chicago Tribune* staff writer Terry Wilson aptly notes: "African-American gays and lesbians say they often feel like invisible members of the gay community as far as news coverage is concerned." A column from the Knight-Ridder/Tribune Business News syndicate offers a welcome exception to this unwelcome rule.

In "Former NYC Ballet Soloist On Being Black, Gay and Having AIDS" (Jan. 12), the *Charlotte Observer*'s Tony Brown writes an eloquent and expansive profile of dancer Mel Tomlinson. The column begins by observing that "Mel Tomlinson's body vibrates its poetry ... muscles rippling under a dark bronze sheath of skin, that impossible long neck supporting a proud and noble visage," and Brown maintains this tone of respect and pride throughout.

In this profile, Tomlinson — "loud and proud" — examines the "three great challenges" of his life: "being poor and black ... being a homosexual ... having AIDS." Tomlinson is refreshingly unapologetic about sex ("Abstinence? Forget it," he says). He concludes: "I have a right to die with dignity. And I have a right to live with dignity."

Contact: Tony Brown, *Charlotte Observer*, P.O. Box 2138, Charlotte NC 28233, fax 704-358-5022; Terry Wilson, *Chicago Tribune*, 435 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago IL 60611.

Encourage newspapers to expand their queer coverage beyond the "gay white male" syndrome; numerous ideas for stories to pitch can be found in the excellent *BLK* calendar of events "of specific interest to the black lesbian and gay community," available at *BLK Publishing*'s website (<http://www.blk.com/blk>).

Blacklines, a new monthly magazine, is published by Tracy Bain, Lambda Publications, Chicago.

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, call the 24-hour "MediAlert Hotline" (415-861-4588) or write to: **Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation**, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103.

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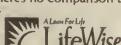
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Congress Approves Telecom Bill To Make Internet 'Decent'

by Ian Christopher McCaleb, UPI

Congress voted overwhelmingly Thursday, February 1 to approve the first major alteration to U.S. telecommunications law since the Communications Act of 1934, and sent the bill to the White House, where President Clinton immediately praised the legislation, which he plans to sign.

The House-Senate compromise version of the new Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996 will, in its many provisions, impose "decency" standards on computer networks, and institute the "V-Chip" to block sexually suggestive

or violent television programs.

The bill encountered relatively little resistance during a brief floor debate, and passed the House by a vote of 414-16. Less than an hour later, the Senate moved the bill by a 91-5 margin.

Clinton, in a statement, congratulated the Congress for passing the law, and Vice President Al Gore, the administration's leading advocate for pursuing new technologies, called it "a great bipartisan victory."

Clinton predicted the bill would "help families exercise control over how the media influences their children."

Gore said Clinton would likely

sign the bill into law "within a week."

One of the few lawmakers to urge the bill's defeat was openly gay Representative Barney Frank of Massachusetts, but he objected to a provision that gives broadcasters free access to potentially lucrative segments of the broadcast spectrum, and not the "decency standards" it imposes on the Internet.

Representative Pat Schroeder of Colorado introduced legislation Tuesday, February 6 that would strip a ban on abortion-related speech from the bill, which passed containing language prohibiting some discussions on the Internet about abortion. ▼

Oregon Representative Hits the Internet

Eighmey Out on the Web!

by David Batterson

Oregon Democratic State Representative George Eighmey of Portland, a longtime figure in the gay and lesbian community, has now launched his own site on the World Wide Web. Eighmey has been out of the closet for some time now, and has no qualms about appearing publicly in an electronic venue that reaches worldwide.

In addition to information on current legislative proposals, Eighmey's homepage has links to other governmental Web sites in the state and elsewhere. Eighmey also provides the discussion topics for his monthly Straight Talk cable access TV show.

Eighmey represents House District 14 in the Portland's southeast section, including the S.E. Hawthorne Boulevard district where a large number of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender

constituents live and work.

When the legislature is not in session, Eighmey practices law, specializing in family law, tax law, wills, and estates. He has been a resident of Oregon since 1983, and lives with his partner of 14 years, Peter, and has two adult children.

In 1993 he was appointed to the Oregon Legislature to replace Beverly Stein (now Multnomah County Chair). He has worked on issues revolving around corrections, children, and families, and the rights of the terminally ill. Eighmey is currently seeking re-election to his third term.

In addition to lawyering, Eighmey is a community activist, donating his time and energy to the Oregon Gay and Lesbian Law Association, Our House of Portland (an AIDS hospice), REACH Community Development, the Ladd's Addition and Hosford-Abernathy neighborhood associations, and

the Oregon Speak Out Project.

Eighmey says he "has no spare time," but does enjoy reading and the arts, and has been known to "dance with the best of them." His Web site is at: <http://www.portals.pdx.edu/~eighmey>. His e-mail address is: RepGeorge@aol.com. ▼

Germany Calls for More Internet Censorship

by Peter Bild, UPI

Public prosecutors in Mannheim, Germany announced Friday, February 2 that they have started an investigation of AOL Bertelsmann Online for allegedly encouraging the distribution of illegal Nazi propaganda. Officials of the joint venture between the German publisher Bertelsmann and the U.S.-based America Online denied the prosecutors' contention that online services are supporting the distribution of illegal material by giving subscribers access to the Internet.

AOL Bertelsmann Online argues that it has no influence on the Internet's contents just as a phone provider has no influence on the content of telephone conversations.

T-Online, a subsidiary of Deutsches Telekom, Germany's

telephone monopoly, has also been included in the Mannheim prosecutor's investigations.

The spread of the Internet has heightened strains in German-American relations over the distribution of Nazi propaganda. Such material is banned in Germany, where it is illegal to question whether the Holocaust ever happened, but is protected under freedom of speech provisions in the United States.

A number of individuals, mainly of German origin, use freedom of speech laws to write anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi pamphlets in the United States or Canada for distribution in Germany. Some have been arrested and charged in Germany, raising accusations that the country is exceeding its territorial authority and infringing the rights of Americans.

Continued on page 14

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VALENTINE NEWS

Dating 101

Just in Time for Spring Fancy Turning!

by Mary Ann Swissler

To those who regard the dating scene as one of Dante's circles of Hell, East Bay therapist Jan Carlson offers some ways to work through the fears that many singles have.

Carlson holds dating workshops for co-eds of all persuasions, offering step-by-step advice to make the process a success, or at least less excruciating. Her next project is a dating workshop specifically for lesbian women in a supportive environment. But whether she is helping lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, or heterosexuals, some things are always constant. The important things, in fact,

"I talk about the seven principles of healthy dating," Carlson told the B.A.R., based on the work of fellow therapist Daniel Linder.

1) To create a healthy dating relationship, you have to have a purposeful dating strategy.

Ask yourself why you are dating. Is it for a committed, intimate relationship, for a primarily sexual affair, or to expand the number of people you know?

2) The purpose of a first date is to assess the desirability of a second date.

Carlson said, "The point of this is when we go out on a first date we make it this big thing. We have these great expectations of what this could mean."

On the other hand, some people go too far in the opposite direction, believing a first date is just



Dating expert Jan Carlson.

something on their "to do" list.

Neither extreme will work. "That doesn't allow for any possibilities that a sexual attraction could grow," she said. Bring a first date way back down to something manageable, she urged, and use it to assess what it is about this person that interests you.

3) Relationships begin on the first date.

This naturally follows the last point, Carlson said. There are a lot of things to pay attention to on a first date, if you are really dating with the intention of an intimate relationship. This is as important for people who are not being dazzled on the first date as for those who feel they're being swept off their feet.

Many relationships begin with few sparks, she said, and develop into important lifelong loving and passionate partnerships. Of course, there are the other kinds to watch out for, too.

Still, looking too much for cues and flaws can be a bad thing. Which brings her to her next point.

4) A first date should be a clean slate.

"That's about trying to be in the here and now, and not dragging all your past relationships along with you," said Carlson. Like everyone else, she knows that is easier said than done, since all kinds of things can trigger feelings of past relationships. Even so, she said, too much unresolved baggage is what ruins a lot of relationships. "Try to be in the here and now," she reiterated.

5) To get to know your date, you must establish rapport.

"Building rapport involves being yourself and listening,"

Carlson said, "and being spontaneous. Let the time together unfold and don't have an agenda. Notice your reactions to the person."

Comments like "I'm having a really good time," or, conversely, "This food is awful, I'm telling the waiter to get me another dinner," as long as they are honest, can open up a discussion and build rapport.

6) To establish rapport, you must notice, self-disclose, and listen.

Carlson urges people to notice what they're feeling when speaking with another person. Do you feel safe? Happy? Comfortable? Distrustful? "That's like your radar," she said. Self-disclosure lets another person know you're paying attention and interested in them. "It isn't about telling your life history, but rather talking about what's happening right now." And if you ask your dates personal questions, she said, you owe it to them to really listen and focus on them as they answer.

7) Intimate relationships are built on mutual interests, honesty, and understanding.

Finally, she concluded, going to all the effort of making and keeping a first date, and then praying that the other person will show an interest in you without putting yourself on the line, is self-defeating.

In other words, don't just sit there, tell someone how you feel.

For information about Carlson's forthcoming lesbian dating workshop, or her other projects, call Earth Circle at (510) 464-1024.

Germany

Continued from page 13

icans.

German authorities say they can act because the intention is the illegal distribution of Nazi propaganda in Germany, wherever it is written.

A spokesman for the Mannheim prosecutors told United Press International, "We know we are breaking new legal ground in areas for which there are no precedents."

In December, America Online competitor CompuServe barred online clients worldwide from accessing some 200 electronic fo-

rum, also called newsgroups, selected by Munich police authorities who approached CompuServe's German headquarters. The officials said they were responding to complaints about the dissemination of child pornography available on the World Wide Web which provides easy Internet access to images, but free speech advocates and activists pointed out the majority of the banned newsgroups were non-sexual sites of general interest to gays and lesbians.

CompuServe is now working on software to allow it to bar material selectively, blocking access to subscribers in one country without stopping access in others. ▼

Gay Cards On-Line

by Hakeem Oseni II

What do you live in Idaho and want to send a Valentine's Day card to your last-year's heartthrob-one-night-stand-French-speaking-stud who now lives in Sicily? Hop on the World Wide Web and hit Greet Street Thematic Communication Products for the Digital Domain (<http://www.greetst.com>), where you can send a personalized gay-or-lesbian-themed greeting card worldwide from the comfort of your computer.

"It's the place to be on the Internet for greeting cards," said Greg Nimer, President of 10 Percent Productions, which thought about putting its own corporate site on the web but figured Greet Street would do a better job of it.

"We're very out when we live in the big cities, but when you live in the Midwest or rural America, the gay community is very different. They are not able to be as open," Nimer told the *Bay Area Reporter*. He explained that rural types would be the ones more likely to find alternative means to purchase products specific to them.

According to Greet Street "Creator of Chaos" and co-founder Tony Levitan, it works the other way, too. "To assume that only gay people send gay cards is inaccurate," he said, adding that heterosexual people who do not have easy access to gay-themed stores can make use of the service to send cards to their gay friends.

"The basic philosophy is that the on-line environment is very diverse," Levitan said. "You can craft what you want to buy, using the power of digital technology."

The service's gay section has its own icon on its main menu page, and prices for the cards are the same as in retail stores. Card publishers such as 10 Percent, Cardthartic and NobleWorks are available on the sites. Cards are \$1.50-\$2; add an extra \$1.50 to get it personalized, plus 50 cents

postage (within the U.S.).

A "Perfect Memory" service is also offered, where you can book cards in advance, order a year's worth of birthday cards, and receive e-mail at the time each one is sent.

"We are not a gay and lesbian company, but we recognize that gays and lesbians are an important part of our market," Levitan said, adding the gay community represents a disproportionately large portion of their sales.

"We do the same thing for other cultures," he said, including African-American, Hispanic, and Jewish-themed cards available online.

"It is a reasonable way for companies like us to reach a market that is totally unavailable to us," Nimer said, recommending Greet Street.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Hawaiian Theme for HERMP Fundraiser Valentine's Day

by Mary Ann Swissler

The Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project (HERMP) will get a boost from a Valentine's Day fundraising luau at Eichelberger's restaurant and cabaret Wednesday, February 14, from 6 to 11 p.m.

Tax-deductible tickets for "Some Enchanted Evening" are on sale for \$50 per person, which will include a sumptuous traditional Hawaiian wedding buffet cooked by Eichelberger's, an open champagne bar, music, and interactive computer technology.

The highlight of the evening will be the chance to see live hula and hear recorded tunes throughout the night from incomparable Hawaiian musical artists including Martin Denny, Pahinui Brothers, the Beamers, and other steel and slide guitar stylists.

Other scheduled guest artists include hula dancing by Leon Luno and his halau, plus comics Monica Grant and Marilyn Pittman.

Eichelberger's co-owner and event co-producer, Cornelius Conboy, told the B.A.R. that he and co-producer Wes Ballard were shooting for as much authenticity as possible by using *The Hilo Cookbook* as their guide for the huge meal. Vegetarian dishes will be available, in addition to the traditional meal of prepared smoked pig, poi, fish dishes, pineapple, coconut cake, and assorted tropical dishes.

Conboy, who holds the title San Francisco Leather Daddy XIII, said he is producing the event because he would like legal recognition for his own longterm marriage to Eichelberger's co-owner Dennis Gattra. "I've been married for 13 years," he said, "and I can't wait to fly to Hawaii and make it legal."

Conboy said that although spirits are running high, he realizes that it is far from certain that the Hawaii Supreme Court will mandate gender-neutral marriage laws in that state. "I'm very optimistic about it," he said, "but I'm not overly confident. If it was a victory fund we wouldn't need to send the money." But at least the word is getting out, he acknowledged.

"The one thing we've noticed since we started this, is that you can hardly pick up a paper and avoid reading about same-sex

marriage," said Conboy.

Not all of the news is good, especially lately with the California State Assembly's passage of AB1982, making it impossible for same-sex marriage performed outside of California to be legally recognized. "But we do have a lot of friends," Conboy said, notably State Senator Milton Marks, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee where the Senate version of the bill – already passed by the Assembly – is headed next.

Marks is scheduled to be at Eichelberger's, along with Supervisor and senatorial candidate Angela Alioto, Supervisor Tom Ammiano, and other framers of San Francisco's domestic partnership law.

There will be a silent auction including the chance to win a personalized web site, along with many other prizes, with proceeds to benefit HERMP. ▀

For more information or tickets call (415) 863-4177, or e-mail ELCHEL@AOL.com.

IRS Lets Spouses Pay Less than Domestic Partners

So What Else Is New?

by Dennis Conkin

An Internal Revenue Service practice of taxing domestic partners' healthcare insurance, in the case of workers who provide less than half the financial support for their domestic partner, has drawn fire from lesbian and gay activists.

The federal agency made the ruling in a private letter to a taxpayer in January – and although the decision is binding only on the taxpayer who sought the clarification, other taxpayers can expect the same decision, according to an IRS spokesman.

The benefits generally have been considered taxable employee income by companies offering such policies, even though married workers pay no tax on similar health benefits provided to their heterosexual spouses.

"On the positive side, it's good that our relationships are becoming more visible in society. On the negative side, the tax man is coming after us and we can't even get married," said Robert Bray, a spokesman for the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force, after the San Francisco Chronicle ran a front page story on the matter February 6.

But although the tax is expressly unfair and federal tax law should be changed to eliminate it, a revision of the federal tax code would require an act of Congress, said American Civil Liberties Union spokesman Matt Coles.

"Number one, it's not new. Number two, it's tax law," Coles told the Bay Area Reporter. "It's clearly unfair and should be changed, but that's going to take a little while. Remember, this is the



ACLU spokesman Matt Coles.

Congress that passed HIV exclusion in the military last week."

Coles is the author of the San Francisco domestic partners legislation enacted in 1991 – and earlier legislation in Berkeley in 1985 – providing healthcare benefits for city workers' domestic partners.

Several local corporations and employers, including the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Apple, and Levi-Strauss, have made such benefits available to their gay and lesbian – and unmarried straight – workers. ▀

Sacramento Assembly Votes Against Same-Sex Marriages

United Press International

The California Assembly passed a bill Wednesday, January 31 that would deny recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states and countries.

The final vote was 41-31, the bare majority needed to advance the measure to the state Senate, likely to take up the measure in late March or early April, according to legislative analyst Josh Lowery.

Opponents kept the rolls open until 10 p.m. in hopes of getting someone to change his or her vote from "yes" to "no," but there was no change, Lowery said.

The heavily debated measure was one of dozens taken up by the 80-member house on the final day for sending 1995 legislation to the Senate.

It was offered by Republican Assemblyman Pete Knight of Palmdale, who warned that without a clear law on the books gay couples would go to Hawaii and get married, then return to demand that California give them the same

recognition as other out-of-state unions.

"It would be an unfunded mandate on small governments forced to provide the same benefits to same-sex couples as other couples," he said.

Openly lesbian Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl, D-Encino, said the issue was no different from that once faced by racial minorities.

"Slaves were not allowed to marry," she said. "They were deemed less than human. This is an issue of humanity. This is an issue of civil rights."

Assemblyman Philip Isenberg, D-Sacramento, said the bill was an infringement of the U.S. Constitution, which requires states to recognize contracts made in other states.

Proponents of the measure said the Supreme Court has never ruled on such legislation, and they were willing to risk litigation to affirm the fundamental social value of heterosexual marriage.

"Marriages between men and women are the anchor of Western



Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl.

civilization," said Assemblywoman Barbara Alby, R-Fair Oaks. ▼

Task Force Forms Around Same-Sex Marriage Ban

by Mary Ann Swissler

A number of lesbian and gay organizations in San Francisco and Sacramento will work together to stop the anti-same sex marriage bill that passed the State Assembly by a narrow margin, from passing in the State Senate. [See story, above.]

The first meeting of the Northern California Freedom To Marry Task Force will be held this Tuesday, February 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Cultural Center Room at New College, located at 766 Valencia Street at 19th. Everyone is welcome.

The National Center for Lesbian Rights, the LIFE Lobby, and the Family Issues Caucus of the Harvey Milk Club are now organizing the task force, to try and defeat the State Senate's version of AB1982.

If the bill passes the State Senate's Family Law Subcommittee, it will proceed to the Judiciary Committee.

Task force organizers strongly suggest gays and lesbians and their friends write, telephone, or e-mail their disgust with this preemptive measure.

The mailing address for all

State Senators is: State Capitol, Sacramento CA 95814.

Family Law Subcommittee members:

- Sen. Charles Calderon, (916) 445-8315 or Senator.Calderon@sen.ca.gov
- Sen. Henry Mello, (916) 445-5843 or Senator.Mello@sen.ca.gov
- Sen. Kathie Wright, (916) 445-8873, or Senator.Wright@sen.ca.gov

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- Sen. Quentin Kopp, (916) 445-0503, Senator.Kopp@sen.ca.gov
- Sen. Hilda Solis, (916) 445-1418, Senator.Solis@sen.ca.gov
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- Sen. Nicholas Petris, (916) 445-6577, Senator.Petris@sen.ca.gov
- Sen. Tim Leslie, (916) 445-5788, Senator.Leslie@sen.ca.gov ▼

GLAAD Media Award Nominees Announced

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has announced its nominees for its seventh annual media awards, to be presented next month in separate ceremonies in New York and Los Angeles.

The nominees for outstanding studio film are *Boys on the Side*, *Carrington*, *Home for the Holidays*, and *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar*.

For outstanding television series, the nominees include *Court-house*, *Friends*, *NYPD Blue*, *Party of Five*, and *Sisters*. ▼

- United Press International

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INTERVIEW

Mindy Pengel Talks to the B.A.R.

Lesbian Cop To Command SFPD Special Operations Unit

by Mary Ann Swissler

A Bay Area lesbian who was in the first group of women allowed to enroll in the San Francisco Police Academy in 1975 was appointed Commander of the San Francisco Police Department's Special Operations Unit this January.

Melinda Pengel, 42, says she now holds a bird's-eye view of the department and its wide-ranging opportunities for women, and knows that she helped create it. She remembers the Police Academy in those days, after a court decision forced SFPD to admit female police cadets, as a place "that just wanted to get us of there." Ironically, 20 years later she was named to direct the Academy. She did that job for a year, until last month when Mayor Willie Brown named her special forces commander, overseeing the tactical squad and police officers assigned to Muni, among other patrol-related duties.

Shortly after her appointment, Pengel took time to speak with the B.A.R. about her past and future at SFPD.

'They Thought All of Us Were Lesbians'

Pengel is still making her mark as a first: her current rank is fourth-highest in the department, behind Chief, Assistant Chief, and Deputy Chief. In 1994 she became one of three women to be made Captain, the highest rank ever achieved by women. She says she

came up through the ranks after apprenticing on the street patrol — and while her success was definitely not because of her sexuality, she says she was not self-conscious about being openly lesbian. Less so, in fact, than she was about being a woman in the literally all-male world of the San Francisco Police Department.

"In the beginning it seemed like more of a woman's issue," she says. "[Other male cops] assumed

"The lesbian part, the woman part, having people like me in positions like this, still matters."

all of us were lesbians, so what was the big deal?"

Fortunately, said Pengel, she never experienced name-calling, as much as she heard rumors about herself as a dyke. "I've experienced harassment on the job, but I don't know if it was because of being lesbian, or being a woman," she says. "[We] were walking into a resistant group. There was some people that were supportive, but for people who were supportive, there was so much peer pressure not to show that."

Back in 1975 "bonding" was just something that happened when glue was applied to a surface, although the women in the academy did support each other, somewhat. "In the beginning," she recalls, "the women kind of supported each other, in that we really went through a tough time. It was an academy that you

wouldn't want to go through."

Still, she says, "I felt more that I just toughed it out. I think that's a sad thing about women going into these kinds of jobs, that we don't turn to each other enough and say, 'I need some help,' or 'I need some support,' or whatever."

Pengel found solace in her family, which she credits with reinforcing that she could be whatever she wanted to be. "And I was young — I don't mean in terms of years, but in terms of being naive, and having those rose-colored glasses on and thinking I could just climb to the top of the mountain and that I could do everything."

Social safety nets for minorities were not even on the books, Pengel recalls, much less practiced in her department. George Moscone was mayor, and gay rights were just poised to explode onto the scene in a big way. She credits the group Officers For Justice for its farsightedness in fighting for admissions for all minorities, adding, "That struggle was fought by all."

She acknowledges that there are still leftover feelings that some people would like her to "get over," but says, "It's not that easy. You remember the people that treated you like dirt. It's part of my feelings."

"It's like a garbage can, you shove it in there so long because there was nowhere to vent."

'I'm Past Having To Prove Myself'

How does she see the whole issue 21 years after breaking ground?

"Frankly, right now I don't care what people think about me. I'm not saying that I don't have feelings, but I'm here, I'm going to do the job, I've done the job, and I'm past having to prove myself to the group."

Still, she appreciates how things have changed: understandably, with a total absence of female predecessors, Pengel says

Don't Miss the Party



The Queer Central's Valentine's Day Open House at Queer Central will begin at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, and not at 8 as previously reported. Queer Central is located at 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200. For more information call (415) 255-8680. ▶

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INTERVIEW

her role models were men, and after two decades she realizes she has assumed that stature on the force. She now has younger, straight men on the force coming up to her, telling her how much they value her work.

"One of the nicest things that happened is when a guy became sergeant at Mission Station," and asked her to take him under her wing. "But of course I have a special interest for the women," she says, "and helping to bring women along, and mentor women."

Although Pengel has stressed since her appointment that she bleeds blue first and then lavender, she is acutely aware of the importance of having out dykes in prominent positions. "The lesbian part, the woman part, having people like me in positions like this, still matters," she says.

Pengel speaks with particular pride, both as a cop and an openly lesbian woman, when she discusses today's younger gay and lesbian cadets entering the Police Academy. "They're a different breed," she says, "and I smile when I see them. We zipped our lips, we took our hard knocks, we took the punches and walked away."

Her younger counterparts, she said, show the value of freedom of expression. More than spouting political iconography, Pengel said she sees that "they have this energy, this kind of spunk, this enthusiasm like, 'I'm here and if you don't like it, that's the way it goes.'

"They're just being themselves. I didn't get to do that."

What she can do, she says, is view the scene with almost maternal satisfaction. "I look and I say, 'I helped create that.' And I have the bruises to show for it. That takes away a little of the pain that I have for coming through all of that." ▼



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Commander Melinda Pengel: "The lesbian part, the woman part, having people like me in positions like this, still matters."

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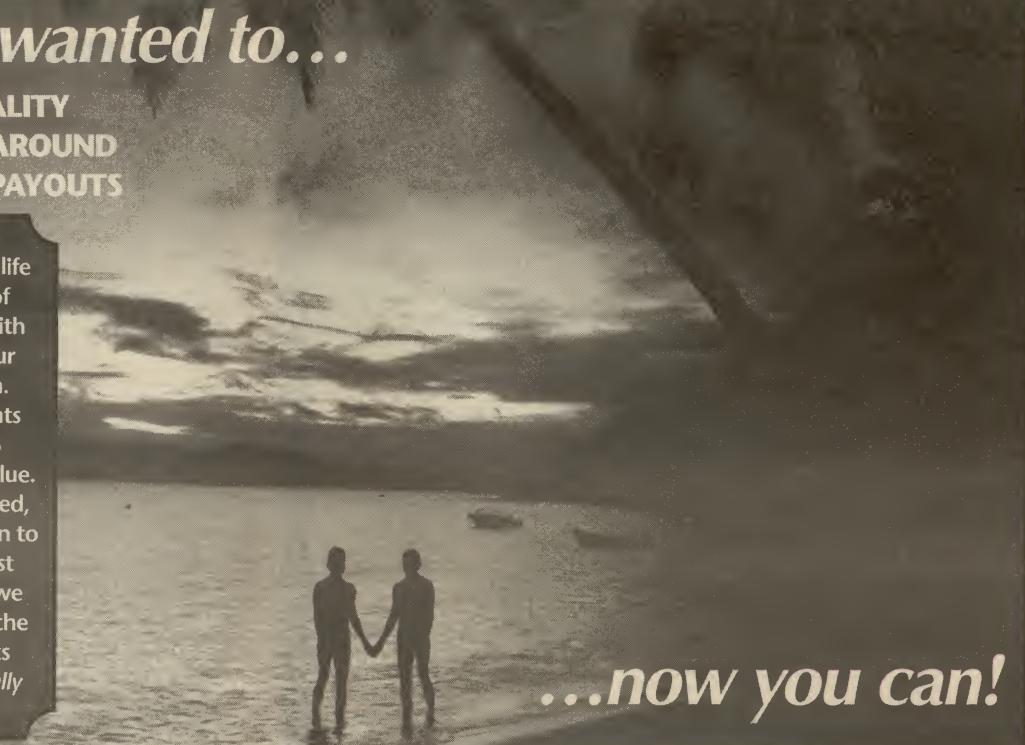


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NATIONAL NEWS

Forbes Opposes Gay Marriages

by William J. Menner,
UPI

Republican presidential hopeful Steve Forbes found himself discussing abortion and same-sex marriages Thursday, February 1 as he kicked off a two-day bus tour of Iowa to push his flat tax and economic reform proposals.

Forbes, who is leading Senate Majority leader Bob Dole in the latest poll of New Hampshire voters, is trying to build support in advance of the February 12 Iowa precinct caucuses.

In tiny Earlham, Iowa — population 1,157 — Forbes told more than 100 supporters about his plans to eliminate the Internal Revenue Service and implement a 17 percent flat tax. But when the crowd got a chance to ask him questions, they wanted to know where he stands on abortion and homosexuality.

When asked if he supports same-sex marriages, Forbes responded, "Compassion is not approval. There should be special rights for none, equal rights for all."

"Does that mean no?" his questioner pressed.

"Yes," Forbes said.

Forbes is the son of the late multi-millionaire publisher Malcolm Forbes, whose homosexuality was revealed after his death.

On the question of abortion, Forbes told the crowd he is pro-choice — but opposes federal funding for abortions and late-term abortions — and then cautioned the crowd not to let the issue change the tone of the debate.

"You must first change peo-

ple's opinion. You must first change the culture," he said. "To talk about the law without talking about underlying public opinion is to miss the whole point of it."

"If you don't have people feeling in their conscience that it is something that ought not to be done," he persisted, "then it will be done."

Afterwards, reporters asked Forbes if he felt uncomfortable talking about social issues when his area of expertise is economics.

"Values and economics are one and the same, especially in America," he said. "There is a moral foundation to our country, a moral foundation to our activities and if you ignore one, you in effect undermine the other. They go hand-in-hand."

Meanwhile, a new Boston Globe/WBZ-TV poll shows Forbes has surged ahead of Dole 31-22 percent, less than three weeks before the first-in-the-nation New Hampshire presidential primary. Right wing commentator Patrick Buchanan polled 11 percent, with six other candidates lagging behind. ▼

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Shopping-Channel Queen Backs Moneybags Candidate

by Valerie Kuklenski
UPI Entertainment Editor

Show business personalities haven't seemed anxious to rally behind any particular Republican hopeful in the presidential race, but Steve Forbes can boast the support of Joan Rivers.

The comedian and shopping-channel queen is hitting the hustings for Forbes, planning a visit to New Hampshire before the

February 20 primary there. She also plans to do some benefits for the millionaire candidate.

"I'll do whatever I can," she disclosed at a Republican fundraiser in New York. "His late father, publisher Malcolm Forbes, was a good friend, and over the years I've come to know and admire Steve."

"And I like the sound of his flat tax proposals — although I'm no economist." ▼

ACT UP/LA

Continued from page 1

with AIDS, including protest organizer Pete Jiminez, who fashioned himself into a devil-diva for the occasion.

A key target of the protests — House Speaker Newt Gingrich — skipped the red carpet entrance. But inside he told a reporter: "I think [Reagan] changed the world. ... He re-awakened the American Dream. He sort of brought us back to America. The impact Ronald Reagan made on us psychologically in this country almost means more than anything else he accomplished."

Outside, California Governor Pete Wilson told reporters, "If not for Ronald Reagan, the protesters wouldn't be able to toot their horns." Wilson, along with Nancy Reagan (who attended the celebration after a quiet dinner at home with her husband, who suffers from Alzheimer's), former President Gerald Ford and his wife Betty, former Pentagon chief Colin Powell, LA Mayor Richard Riordan, Marvin and Barbara

Davis, Charlton Heston, Bob Hope, Gary Coleman, Bo Derek, ET's Mary Hart, and others were forced to wait in line to get to the jammed-up entrance. At least one very lesbian-looking couple was also observed going in.

An irony that both rankled and amused protesters was the appearance of gay singer Johnny Mathis, who provided entertainment for an evening hosted by Merv Griffin.

The demonstration ended about three and a half hours after it began without incident or arrest, largely due to the friendly relationship between the gay community and the West Hollywood Sheriff's station. Unlike the usually riot-gearred LAPD or the perceived homophobic Beverly Hills force, the West Hollywood deputies handled one surge toward the entrance without undue force — and laughed along with the crowd when protesters yelled "Ugly Dress! Ugly Dress!" at a number of women emerging from limousines.

"I hate it when they say ACT UP is dead," ACT UP/LA's Mary Lucey chuckled. ▼

Gay Candidate Steve Michael (and 'Wife') Push New Hampshire Limits

By Mike Salinas

Steve Michael, the HIV-positive challenger to Bill Clinton on a number of Democratic primary ballots, has chosen a retired Naval officer with AIDS as the star of his first campaign ad.

The commercial with retired Commander Hank Carde, who served three combat tours in Vietnam, debuted Wednesday, February 7 in New Hampshire. The 60-second spot charges that Clinton has been "AWOL" on AIDS, and demands action on the promised Manhattan/Apollo-style research

effort to find a cure.

And, according to the candidate, that ad is only the beginning.

"Many creative video artists will be devoting their time and talents in the coming months to the production of a series of ads that will finally make AIDS a presidential issue," Michael added.

"One artist is working on an ad that will show an animated Bill Clinton demonstrating the proper methods of condom use — on his nose."

The campaign plans to air the commercials at least ten times each day between now and the

February 20 primary.

Michael's campaign manager and life partner Wayne Turner said that since campaign ads for federal office cannot be censored, "We fully intend to push the limits of political advertising by showing America exactly what this epidemic is doing."

Guess Who's Coming to Class?

Turner may also push the previously known limits of New Hampshire politics when he appears at a grade school function as Michael's "wife" this month.

A group called Kids Voting-New Hampshire wrote Michael in January, "to invite your wife to attend our Sweetheart Event ... at the elementary and junior high schools on Manchester's West Side."

"The event will take place on Valentine's Day, February 14th. The time of the event would depend on her availability."

According to the invitation, "The focus of the event is to have Mrs. Michael speak to the students about what it is like to be a candidate's spouse, and what she would see her role being if you are elected president of the United States."

Upon reading that "Kids Vot-

ing-New Hampshire is part of a nationwide network of organizations working to increase adult voter participation by involving our youth in the electoral process," Turner gladly accepted the invitation.

"Thank you for your invitation regarding Kids Voting USA," he wrote. "I would be delighted to attend the February 14 Sweetheart Event for candidate's spouses."

"Steve and I congratulate your efforts to involve young people in the democratic process, and educating students on the important issues of today."

So far, "Mrs. Michael" has not received a confirmation. ▼

Buchanan Calls Win 'Victory For a New Conservatism'

By Ben Sudduth, UPI

Pat Buchanan stunned Phil Gramm in the battle of GOP conservatives Tuesday, February 6, defeating the Texas senator in Louisiana's first-in-the-nation Republican caucuses.

Buchanan picked up 13 of the 21 GOP convention delegates up for grabs in the caucuses, while Gramm gained the commitment of eight.

Addressing supporters in Baton Rouge, Buchanan called the win a victory for "a new conservatism of the heart."

"This isn't a victory for a man, it's a victory for a cause," Buchanan said. "It's a victory for a cause, it's a victory for a great movement that's moving across this country — this is a victory for a new conservatism of the heart, a conservatism that cares for the right to life of the innocent unborn, a conservatism that cares for workers and what's happening to them when trade deals send their jobs abroad, a conservatism that looks out for the sovereignty of America, and restores to the United States a right to decide our own destiny."

The caucuses were bypassed by front-running candidates Senator Bob Dole, publisher Steve Forbes, and Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander, all of whom

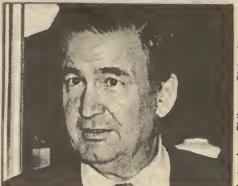


Photo: Jane Philomen Czajak

Pat Buchanan

were campaigning in Iowa and New Hampshire; Alan Keyes, the other Republican campaigning in Louisiana, picked up no delegates. Fewer than ten percent of Louisiana's 486,000 registered Republicans cast ballots in the caucuses.

The state's remaining nine convention delegates will be determined in the March 12 Super Tuesday primary.

Gramm had been counting on his neighboring state to give him a boost heading into Iowa and New Hampshire. He campaigned largely on economic issues, saying in speeches and television commercials he will downsize government in Washington and reform the welfare system.

Buchanan campaigned on an

anti-abortion platform — as did Gramm and Keyes — but also promised, if elected, to return American troops from Bosnia.

Buchanan also pressed his "America first" program, calling for tariffs on the importation of certain kinds of fish, a major industry in Louisiana. He also criticized Gramm for accepting campaign money from gambling interests.

Exit polling showed the religious right supported Buchanan by a 2-to-1 margin. ▼



Steve Michael and life partner Wayne Turner.

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Raid

Continued from page 3

chocked one man into unconsciousness with an illegal choke; and brutalized and arrested other patrons on a variety of pretexts. Patrons reported anti-gay slurs, police officers refusing to identify themselves, and sexual harassment.

All charges were dropped against the benefit's patrons, and a federal civil rights lawsuit was later filed against the city, the Police Department, and officers involved in specific incidents of misconduct.

Lesbian leader and attorney Nanci Clarence, who represents the plaintiffs in a civil suit, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that some of the issues involve officer credibility, and the nature of the evidentiary material requires a hearing before the commission as a whole, rather than simply appointing a hearing officer and giving each transcriber voluminous hearing transcripts from perhaps dozens of officers and complainants.

"The charges stem from the largest Office of Citizen Complaints investigation ... in recent

memory," she said. "A case of this scope merits a full hearing before the commission," she said.

Clarence said an unprecedented amount of material will go before the commission: in addition to the investigation conducted by the Office of Citizen Complaints, police management have forwarded the findings of their own exhaustive investigation to the OCC.

Although more than a year has passed since the 938 Harrison Street raid, many patrons who were peacefully attending the private fundraiser for an AIDS support group for artists are still deeply traumatized by the police action at the event, Clarence said.

The physical bruises may have healed, she said, but the memories and the emotional and psychic trauma have not.

"It's going to take a while for my clients to fully recover," she said.

Lesbian commissioner Pat Norman told the *Bay Area Reporter* that although Keker had been assigned the hearing initially, the decision over whether the entire commission will sit to hear the disciplinary charges will be forthcoming. ▼

Clinton Consents to Defense Bill Ousting HIV+ Soldiers

... But White House Says That Part Can Be Fixed

United Press International

White House spokesman Mike McCurry said Monday, February 5 that President Clinton will sign the defense authorization bill this week. However, McCurry said, Clinton was "close" to finding a solution to removing a clause in the bill - which actually directs how and where the Pentagon can spend its money - requiring the expulsion of military personnel with HIV.

Republican Senator Bill Cohen of Maine and Democrat Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, along with a group of House lawmakers, were assisting in the search for a solution.

The strategy, according to congressional sources, is essentially to turn the tables on the GOP-led Congress, by tacking a repeal of the clause onto a bill greatly desired by Republicans.

Conservative House Republicans used that same strategy by adding the HIV discharge language, along with a ban on abortions for servicewomen at overseas medical facilities, to the defense bill they passed last month.

The clause would require the



Senator Bill Cohen

discharge of HIV-infected military personnel within six months of diagnosis. There are about 1,049 U.S. military personnel who have been identified with the virus.

Cohen spokeswoman Kathy Gest said the senator, who is retiring from the Senate at the end of his term, was considering introducing a measure to lift the re-

quirement.

In the House, Republican Representative Connie Morella of Maryland was considering similar action.

Kennedy spokesman Jim Manley said the senator was "still discussing strategy and tactics" and that some move to overturn the discharge provision could come as early as this week.

The Pentagon has opposed the discharge language, although its regulations prohibit infected personnel from traveling abroad or serving in combat.

The expulsion language contained in the defense bill, opponents have noted, would affect infected heterosexuals in the military as well as homosexuals.

However, the clause has touched a nerve among gay rights activists, many of whom are still smarting from what they view as Clinton's betrayal of a campaign promise to end the ban on gays in the military. Shortly after his election in 1992, Clinton clashed with the military over the policy and eventually accepted a compromise that established the "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy but did not lift the military ban on openly gay service personnel. ▼

Anglican Bishops Back Gay Priests

United Press International

The February 4 *Sunday Telegraph* in London reported that 300 senior Anglicans worldwide, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, have backed a campaign to ordain practicing homosexuals as priests.

The clerics signed an advertisement praising the campaigning work of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, which will appear in religious newspapers next Friday. ▼

Pittsburgh Diocese Bans Dignity Masses

United Press International

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh has banned a group of gay Catholics from holding any more masses, because the church teaches sex outside of heterosexual marriage is wrong.

The Pittsburgh chapter of Dignity, the national Catholic gay organization, had been holding masses at St. Pamphilus Church while the diocese for years tried to persuade the group to accept church teachings.

"There was no longer a pastoral solution to this issue," said the Reverend Ronald Lengwin, secretary for pastoral life, who represented the diocese in the discussions.

"They agreed that they, as a matter of conscience, disagree with the church's teaching. There-

fore, they would no longer be allowed to use the facilities at St. Pamphilus or any other diocesan facility."

Of 88 Dignity chapters nationwide, Pittsburgh's was one of five still allowed to use diocesan churches. Some conservative Catholic groups had criticized Bishop Donald Wuerl for allowing the practice.

Most Dignity chapters were banned from diocesan facilities ten years ago when the Vatican issued a statement calling homosexuality "an objective disorder." The church teaches that a homosexual orientation is not itself sinful, but sexual activity with someone of the same sex is a serious sin.

A member of Dignity of Pittsburgh said the break with the diocese was not bitter. ▼

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Presbyterians To Fight Gay Lay Leaders at Convention

United Press International

Mt. Auburn Church in Cincinnati, Ohio first announced a policy of ordaining gays to lay leadership positions in 1991. In 1993 it ordained Michael Adee, a former campus minister at the University of Nevada-Reno, who completed his three-year term last month.

Since 1993, Mt. Auburn has ordained "several" homosexuals, but church officials declined to provide an exact number. Reverend Harold Porter told the *Cincinnati Post* the congregation has grown by 152 members since it changed its ordination policy.

"We're neither a gay church nor a straight church, but a people church," Porter said. "People want to go to a church where they're treated as part of God's good creation."

The Cincinnati Presbytery, which governs the region's 86 Presbyterian Church U.S.A. churches, plans to change that.

The presbytery will challenge a constitutional provision permitting all members to be ordained lay leaders, and ask the national convention in Albuquerque this summer whether a community has the right to set the standards by which it chooses its leadership.

Two other southwestern Ohio Presbyterian churches will also present proposals to the national body: one that amends the constitution to define homosexuality as a sin, and exempt gays and lesbians from ordination; and another that would eliminate sexually active unmarried people from ordination.

"Does a presbytery or a congregation have the right to ordain anyone it deems called to the office?" said Cincinnati's General Presbyter, the Reverend Sam Roberson. "That's larger than the question of gay men and women."

He said a growing number of congregations have ordained gays and lesbians in recent years, a decision "generally accepted and tolerated in the presbyteries where those congregations are located." ▼

Cable Show Producer Possibly Assaulted, Pulled From Fire

by M.C. Allen

Bob LaFont, producer and co-host of *The Gay & Lesbian News Magazine* cable show in Long Beach, California, was rescued from his burning apartment early February 4 by Long Beach police. LaFont, 43, suffered "some injuries" and was "quite severely burned," according to Long Beach Homicide Detective Dennis Robbins.

Initially LaFont was not expected to survive, but his condition improved from "grave" to "very critical" after being transferred to the Torrence Burn Unit with burns covering 45 percent of his body. It also appears that LaFont had been beaten, but a hospital spokesperson could not confirm whether the "bumps" were sustained from blows to the head or a result of being dragged out during the rescue.

LaFont's father, Long Beach

Superior Court Judge Robert LaFont, his mother and two sisters have been at LaFont's side since his ordeal. On February 6 doctors performed "life-saving" surgical skin grafts. LaFont also sustained "serious" damage to his lungs from smoke inhalation, and is on a ventilator.

So far Long Beach police have no leads in the case, although they believe the fire is of a "suspicious nature." Police have not determined a motive, says Robbins, and are not ruling anything out. However, although they are aware of LaFont's prominence in the gay community, as of now there is "no indication" that a hate crime was involved.

Many of LaFont's friends and colleagues are questioning that position because thousands of dollars of video equipment was found melted by fire in the apartment — ruling out robbery as a motive, they believe. Additionally, LaFont



Bob LaFont

actively fought for gay rights on the Internet, which sometimes resulted in hate e-mail and death threats. ▼

Any contributions should be sent to Torrence Burn Unit, 3330 West Lomita, Torrence CA 90505. Checks should be made out to Bob LaFont.

'More than a Clown or a Whore'

LIFE Lobby Honors AIDS Diva Connie Norman in L.A.

by Karen Ocambo

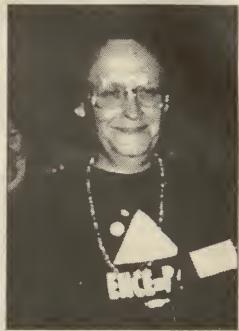
Friends, colleagues, and reporters dutifully follow activist Connie Norman's admonition to put "self-appointed" before "AIDS Diva" when trying to describe her. But as the Saturday, February 3 LIFE Lobby tribute to Norman illustrated, she long ago earned the title without qualification.

Although Norman was too ill with AIDS to attend the event honoring her and her work, cameras were there to record the proceedings. David Reid, who produced Norman's first-ever "mainstream" gay and lesbian radio show, is putting together a tribute that will be given to Norman and will air on Century Cable, among other stations.

"Connie is personally a hero of mine," said LIFE's executive director Laurie McBride as she opened the ceremonies at an AIDS Project Los Angeles studio designed to look at "this extraordinary person's influence."

Log Cabin Republican activist Marty Keller flew down from Sacramento for the tribute. He recalled a time after lobbying for the so-called gay civil rights bill AB 101, when one homophobic Assemblymember took to the floor during the debate and described how "an enormous red-headed lesbian attacked her." After laughter subsided in the APLA studio, Keller said Norman deserved "enormous credit for her willingness to talk to Republicans and not just folks in the family," and for "risking defeat in the service of a higher cause."

As tokens of his fondness and respect for Norman, Keller jokingly gave her a "No Re-Pete" re-



Connie Norman

call button and a "Bob Dornan for President" button.

Assemblymember Diana Martinez presented Norman in absentia with a framed certificate, which she joked was made by Republican staffers. On it were listed a slew of Norman's achievements, including being "AIDS Diva of California," a founding member of LA County's AIDS Planning Council, and Public Policy Director for AIDS Service Center, plus her "unceasing and tireless activism" on behalf of people with AIDS and transgender youth. Martinez specifically credited Norman for getting her involved HIV/AIDS issues and enjoined her to "get out of bed."

"This is no time for you to give up," she said. "We need you."

I'm Not Just a Big Gal'

Other speakers included Chris Brownlie Hospice's Mary Nalik,

Continued on page 28

Mark Denzin, LAc.

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Anyone who was screened for the Stanford NAC study and gave blood to be tested—regardless of whether they were accepted or rejected for the trial—should contact the researchers if you have not already been in touch with them in the last 3 months. The researchers are examining the relationship between blood glutathione levels and survival, and they want to contact as many screened applicants as possible to get the most reliable results, and will pay \$10 for a follow-up office visit. The office visits and blood draws for this study were both in San Francisco.

If you were screened for this study and have not been contacted since October 1995, please call Greg Dubs, Ph.D., or Sharon O'Leary, R.N., (415) 863-8090.

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OBITUARIES

Mark A. McFadden

Sept. 27, 1960 - Jan. 31, 1996

After a long fight, Mark passed away peacefully at home in the arms of his lover. By his side was his devoted brother. He will be missed by all his friends and family.

Good night, sweet prince, and may angels bear thee to thy rest. I will always love you. - Kevin ▼



Raymond Macias

April 16, 1948 - Jan. 18, 1996

Raymond passed on to the other side to join lost loves of his heart on Thursday morning, Jan. 18. Complications of AIDS mounted quickly, resulting in a swift departure after his first hospitalization on the day after Christmas.

Raymond is survived by his mother, Carmen Postell of El Paso, Texas; his sister, Helen Jackson of Seaside, Calif.; and seven other siblings. He also leaves behind his close companion, Bill Moore, and a number of very dear friends who will greatly miss him, including Bob Mesi, Jere Mitchell, Dan Nuckles, Bob Roscher and Steve Seaver.

Raymond worked for Pacific Bell for 16 years and took a disability retirement 20 months ago. He had a unique mischievous innocence in the way he embraced life. While his pure honesty could at times be direct and exacting, his boyish charm also touched countless friends and acquaintances worldwide.

A void now exists that no one else can ever fill. We will miss you, Raymond.

A memorial event is planned around Raymond's birthday in April. For further information, please call 415/647-5067. ▼



John Szucs

1951 - 1995

John passed away from natural causes, leaving behind many friends and joining many friends who had preceded him.

John, known to his many friends as Patti, was well-known in San Francisco, for many reasons. He lived in the same apartment building during his entire 16 years here, having moved from New York in 1979,

where he had spent the previous years of his life.

Being a Libra, John was a balancing act for the many passionate and talented people who surrounded him. He was always willing to give, even when he had nothing.

John's departure from the Castro is a major loss for the gay community, yet another one in this age of major losses. He will be loved and missed always.

John is survived by a host of friends and his immediate family. He requested that no services be held after his death, simply that people live on for him as he would for them.

A final thought. As Patti would say: "Next!" ▼



Tommy Puckett

June 20, 1950 - Feb. 2, 1996

Tommy passed away on the morning of Feb. 2 of AIDS complications. He was raised in Paducah, Kentucky, and his southern charm was highly appreciated by his friends.

Tommy decided to make San Francisco his home. Upon arriving here, he exclaimed, "I was like a kid in a candy store." He loved the city for its diverse people, which was one of the main reasons he settled here.

Tommy was proud of the fact that he remained sober and clean. He celebrated his fifth year of sobriety and was well-known in recovery circles. He practiced his sobriety with discipline and also reached out to those wishing to recover.

Tommy started his recovery through Walden House. After graduating from there, he decided he wanted to become a part of this wonderful family and became an administrative assistant there.

Tommy was surrounded by his Walden House family and his friends when he departed this life. His smile will always be remembered. A memorial service will be held Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. at Walden House, 815 Buena Vista, SF. For further information, call 415/826-7214. ▼



Lanabeth Schwinden

March 21, 1962 - Dec. 15, 1995

Lani was a woman with AIDS who died December 15. She decided to go without much warning, so she didn't say any good-byes.

I like to think that she is somewhere giving and receiving all of the love, affection and attention that she can handle. I hope she has amazing, colorful spandex wings to give her flight from ever again. Love you, having to struggle Lani. Rave on. ▼



Calvin M. Lowery



Entered into rest February 9, 1995
Safe in God's hands.
Alive in our hearts.



In Loving Memory
JERRY LEE ALLEN
4-27-1941 to 2-6-1992
Family & Friends

Joseph J. Addvensky III

March 15, 1953 - Jan. 13, 1996

Joseph, a.k.a. Sugar, former resident of Virginia, passed away at St. Francis Hospital after a brief illness.

Joseph served in the U.S. Navy. He was a great help in the house and garden, also with the dogs, at his residence in San Rafael, where he resided with an old friend, George Erickson.

Joseph was the son of Joan Price and Joseph Addvensky Jr. He is survived by sisters, Carol LeRoy, Michel Parkinson and Patricia Carmel, all of Virginia; Linda Addvensky of West Virginia; Donna Addvensky of Florida; and his brother, Michael of Indiana. Joseph also has two nephews and three nieces.

Joseph requested cremation and burial at sea. Memorial services are pending. ▼

Andrew ("Drew") Lambert

January 16, 1996

Andrew ("Drew") Lambert, 33, died on Jan. 16 of complications from AIDS. He received for AIDS-related lymphoma. He was surrounded by his mother, sister and many loving friends.

Originally from Los Angeles, Drew moved to San Francisco in 1989. He finished his college degree in theater at San Francisco State in 1990. For several years he worked as a dresser and wardrobe designer for the San Francisco Opera as well as for many shows, including *Phantom of the Opera*. In 1994 he directed the Al-Anon Musical, and during the past year, he worked at Mr. S Leather.

In the years since his diagnosis with AIDS in 1986, Drew worked relentlessly on his spiritual growth and development. At the time of his death, he had made peace with his God, his family and his many friends.

A celebration of Drew's life will take place on Feb. 25 at 11 a.m. at the AIDS Memorial Grove. All are welcome. Those desiring to make contributions in memory of Drew may do so by making checks payable to the AIDS Memorial Grove, clearly marked for the Drew Lambert Memorial Circle of Friends Incription, 856 Stanyan Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. ▼

Jeffrey L. Patterson

January 22, 1996

Jeffrey, 33, died in San Francisco on Jan. 22. An Indiana native, he was the longtime companion of Kevin K. Kirk; dear son of Cassie and the late Floyd Patterson; and brother of Sam and Donna Patterson, and Ann (Dick) Morehouse, all of Lafayette, Ind.

Jeffrey was a strong supporter of many AIDS organizations and charities, besides being former Mayor Frank Jordan's community liaison to a number of SF neighborhoods, including the Haight Ashbury, the Castro and Diamond Heights.

Family services with burial were held at the Union Cemetery in Clarksville, Ind. Donations in Jeffrey's memory preferred to SF AIDS Foundation, 25 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102. ▼

Shanna Barbara Hodges

April 28, 1943 - Jan. 27, 1996

Shanna Hodges was born from this life on Jan. 27 in the arms of her partner of 10 years, Pat Pedersen. Shanna died after a short illness from the effects of metastatic breast cancer.

Shanna was born in Oklahoma and grew up in Wichita, Kan. She began a new life in California in 1980 and resided in San Francisco until her death. Besides her partner and friends, she leaves a son and three grandchildren.

Shanna was a kind, generous, sunny person, with an insatiable curiosity and lust for life. She will be missed by all who knew her.

A memorial service is planned. Please contact Pat Pedersen at 415/333-7587 for details. ▼

Data Promising on Antiviral Nucleotide

HealthWire

Gilead Sciences, Inc. of Foster City, California has released data from a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase I/II clinical study of the company's GS 840 (adefovir dipivoxil), indicating that more may be less when treating patients with HIV. These data demonstrate that treatment with GS 840 for 12 weeks, administered orally once per day, was well-tolerated and resulted in sustained improvements in surrogate markers of HIV infection – particularly in smaller doses.

Data from the multi-center study was presented at the Third Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Washington, DC by clinical investigator Steven G. Deeks, M.D., from the University of California, San Francisco. Deeks most recently gained national prominence as the lead doctor in the unprecedented baboon bone marrow transplant into East Bay PWA Jeff Getty.

GS 840 is a member of the class of antiviral compounds known as nucleotides. The majority of antiviral drugs currently approved to treat HIV/AIDS, such as AZT, are known as nucleoside analogs, which must be administered frequently because they are rapidly cleared from the body. In

addition, nucleoside analogs are associated with the frequent development of resistant viral strains. Unlike nucleoside-based drugs, nucleotide compounds can remain active within both healthy and infected cells for extended periods. Nucleotides form stable, potentially active drug reservoirs within both healthy and infected cells for extended periods, and generally require less frequent dosing.

Clinical Results Summary

Seventy-two patients infected with HIV, all with CD4 counts greater than 200 cells/mm³, were enrolled in the study and random-

"More may be less when treating patients with HIV."

ized to receive either treatment with GS 840 tablets at one of two dose levels (125 or 250 mg), or an inactive placebo, once per day for six weeks. The majority of patients enrolled in the study (75%) had received prior treatment with other antiretroviral therapeutics. After the first six weeks, all patients were eligible to receive open-label treatment with GS 840

ment.

"It was check day," Calvaneo told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's a time when people are more volatile."

Recipients of cash grant programs such as county General Assistance or federal benefits programs receive benefits checks and payments on the first or the first and fifteenth of the month.

Jekyl remains in serious but stable condition at San Francisco General Hospital.

A bystander, 40-year-old Craig Johnson, was treated at San Francisco General Hospital for a superficial chest wound he received, perhaps when the bullet passed through Jekyl and ricocheted.

The police officer and two other officers were treated and released. ▼

for an additional six weeks. During these 12 weeks of dosing, GS 840 was the only antiretroviral treatment administered.

Upon completion of the 12-week dosing period, patients were eligible to receive continuing maintenance treatment with GS 840 for an additional six months. During maintenance, which is ongoing at this time, patients may receive GS 840 alone or in combination with other antiretroviral therapeutics, including approved and investigational nucleoside analogues and protease inhibitors.

Data from the 12-week study demonstrated that treatment with GS 840 resulted in sustained improvements in surrogate markers of HIV that were statistically significant compared to placebo, including decreases in HIV viral load and progressive increases in CD4 cell counts.

In addition, the data suggest treatment with GS 840 may decrease levels of CMV in semen.

Effects and Side Effects

Viral load, as measured by HIV RNA, was decreased as a result of treatment with GS 840 by a median of -0.5 log copies/ml after six weeks of treatment at the 125 mg dose versus placebo, and by a median of -0.4 log copies/ml at the 250 mg dose versus placebo. These decreases were sustained after 12 weeks on treatment.

Mean CD4 cell counts increased from baseline by +46 cells/mm³ following six weeks of

GS 840 treatment at the 125 mg dose, and by +15 cells/mm³ at the 250 mg dose, versus a mean decrease from baseline of -41 cells/mm³ in the placebo group ($p=0.028$, combined active versus placebo). Treatment for an additional six weeks resulted in continued mean increases in CD4 counts, increasing from baseline by +57 cells/mm³ after 12 weeks of treatment at the 125 mg dose and by +27 cells/mm³ at the 250 mg dose.

was analyzed through the use of a branch chain DNA assay, because patients with CD4 cell counts of greater than 200 are unlikely to have CMV in blood or urine. Treatment with GS 840 was associated with changes in the amount of detectable CMV, with a median decrease from baseline of -0.7 log at the 125 mg dose, and -0.3 log at the 250 mg dose, compared with a +0.3 log increase in the placebo group.

Treatment with GS 840 was re-

ported to be well-tolerated. Dose-

related treatment side-effects ob-

served included mild to moderate

gastrointestinal symptoms.

Based upon these data, Phase

III studies are in development. ▼

Shooting

Continued from page 1

in an uncontrollable and possibly drug-induced rage, and began beating and choking her.

Another resident came to the tenant's rescue, but was beaten over the head with a telephone by Jekyl, who also attacked yet another resident with the fire extinguisher before police arrived.

Check Day

Calvaneo, co-founder of People With AIDS Coalition and a veteran street-based Tenderloin social worker affiliated with Lutheran Social Services, said that the incident took place during a bi-weekly peak in the tension of the usually high-stress environ-

ment.

"It was check day," Calvaneo told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's a time when people are more volatile."

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The police officer and two other officers were treated and released. ▼

OBITUARIES

Anthony Dorsey

January 17, 1996

Anthony Dorsey, 29, of San Francisco died Jan. 17. He is survived by his mother, Janet B. Dorsey of San Luis Obispo, Calif.; his sister, Bochma Kinney of Atascadero, Calif.; his brother, Terry Kinney of Belfast, Maine; and his maternal grandmother, Janet Bullock of Sacramento, Calif. Anthony attended and graduated from San Luis Obispo schools.

Private services have been held. Donations may be made to Tuesday's Child or a charity of your choice. ▼

Ion "Bud" Lachman

1934 - 1996

Bud passed away peacefully at Coming Home Hospice at 4:30 a.m., Jan. 8, from AIDS. There were two friends at his bedside.

Those who knew Bud knew about his concise criticisms of this society and his three areas of passion and accomplishment: classical music (especially of the 19th century), literature and poetry, and ancient Egypt. A rare individual, preferring anonymity, monastic temperament and kind, his greatest ongoing consolation in life was his own comfort with eternity.

Bud moved here from San Diego about 30 years ago and is survived by a brother. There were no memorial services; his ashes have been scattered at sea. ▼

James Robert Cancellier

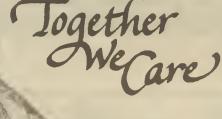
Sept. 9, 1949 - Jan. 1, 1996

Jim died in his Arlington, Va. home, as was his wish. The cause of death was AIDS complications. ▼

Jim was a California native, born in Oakland and raised in Eureka. After living in Hawaii, he moved to San Francisco. During the 1970s, as "Bashka," Jim had a successful career as a female impersonator. A protege of Charles Pierce, he headlined at clubs both here and in Las Vegas. He was also active in the San Francisco Imperial Court.

In 1982, Jim moved to New York, where he began his career as an award-winning interior designer. He was commissioned to do the window treatments at the 21 Club, and his work was featured in several interior design publications. The year 1986 found him in Washington, D.C., where he continued his design work in private homes. A highly spiritual man, he loved both his work and his clients.

Jim is survived by his partner of six years, Jay Harvey; his sister and brother-in-law, Denise and David Jones; and their three children, Josh, Carl and David Jr. His remains were cremated. Memorial contributions may be made to the Whitman Walker Clinic, 1407 S Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. ▼



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② Peripheral Neuropathy - ACTG 242

- A study to find out if amitriptyline or mexiletine can reduce the symptoms of painful HIV associated peripheral neuropathy.
- Pays \$20 per visit once enrolled.

③ Drug Interaction Study - ACTG 283

- A study to find how combinations of Septra or dapsone interact with other drugs commonly used in people with HIV.
- T-cell count higher than 200.
- Requires four overnight stays at the hospital, pays \$100 per stay.

④ Septra to Prevent PCP - ACTG 268

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HEALTH NEWS

More from the Conference on Retroviruses

Prognosis Good on AIDS Research and Treatment

by Bob Roehr

A wave of optimism in AIDS research and treatment continued to spread throughout the third Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Washington, DC. The premier research gathering draws 2,000 top scientists and clinicians from around the world for five days of meetings, which concluded Thursday, February 1.

The big news at last year's conference was a quantum leap in therapy. It included exciting but limited initial clinical data on combination therapies of 3TC with AZT, and the new family of drugs known as protease inhibitors that attack the virus at a different stage in its life cycle than do nucleoside analogs such as AZT. 3TC and Saquinavir, the first protease drug, have since been approved for general use, and two more protease formulas seem likely to be on the market by spring.

Last year's findings were often based on clinical trials involving a mere handful of patients over a dozen weeks. Data on ongoing trials this year involves significantly larger groups of patients tracked for over a year.

Most encouraging is that the expanded data continues to show that these are both powerful antiviral medications, and they appear to remain effective through extended periods of use.

"There is no question that these drugs are at least tenfold – and in some cases more multiples – more potent than drugs we have been using for the last 8-9 years," said Robert T. Schooley, MD, who chaired the scientific program committee of the conference and heads up the Health Sciences Center at the University of Colorado in Denver.

Protease Inhibitors

The pharmaceutical giant Merck led the bandwagon of those touting protease with data on its product Indinavir (tradename Crixivan) used in combination



3rd Conference

Dr. Robert T. Schooley: "There is no question that these drugs are at least tenfold...more potent than drugs we have been using for the last 8-9 years."

with AZT and 3TC in patients with a range of 50-400 CD4 cells. Scientists have long theorized that a triple drug combination would offer greater clinical benefits than single or double treatment therapy.

Merck's data appears to bear this out. Four months into the trial the amount of HIV virus circulating in the blood was reduced by 99%, falling below levels detectable by current tests in 85% of the patients. "It is the best results seen to date," said Dr. Emilio Emini, chief AIDS researcher with the company.

But Emini and others caution that the data is only preliminary, involving 26 patients in the triple combination arm of the trial, only eight of whom have gone beyond week 16. The company is likely to present additional data at the end of February when it goes before an advisory board of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for marketing approval of Crixivan.

Abbott Laboratories will seek approval at the same time for its protease Ritonavir. Theirs is a larger trial involving a thousand more advanced patients (CD4 count of 100 or less) on the drug for 16 weeks. Patients were allowed to continue taking other medications, except another protease.

The Ritonavir arms showed a 40-50 count median rise in CD4 cells, and an increase in CD8 from a median baseline of 500 to 800. The incidence of opportunistic infections was less than half that of the control groups.

"The slope seems to be going back up at the end," noted Anthony S. Fauci, MD., director of the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases at NIH. He asked if there was any "resistance data," and was told those studies have not been completed.

The key question of viral resistance remains unanswered with all of the protease and combination therapies, but it appears that resistance emerges sooner or later, de-

pending on how the drugs are used.

"If we use them improperly we are going to mess up the benefits," warns Douglas D. Richman MD, a leading researcher at the University of California at San Diego and vice chair of the conference. Further clinical trials will probably indicate the most promising treatment regimes.

Kaposi's Sarcoma

Research published little more than a year ago first indicated that Kaposi's Sarcoma is caused by a virus (KSHV) in the herpes family. Data presented here reinforced that view, with 93% of the examined KS lesions showing evidence of KSHV.

"Detection of KSHV predicts development of KS and correlates with immune system suppression," said Dr. Patrick S. Moore, with the Columbia University School of Public Health.

KSHV appears to be closely related to the Epstein-Barr virus. But much remains unknown. It may in fact be a family of up to three separate, closely related viruses, Moore explained. KSHV is difficult to maintain in a cell line – and therefore, to study.

There is no direct evidence that KSHV is sexually transmitted. Although it is present in semen, the levels are so low that transmission is thought extremely difficult. It has appeared primarily in gay men, in geographic clusters, and seems to be less prevalent than years ago.

It has been detected in 91% of the semen of HIV-positive gay men, but also in 23% of healthy sperm donors. That has led to "speculation the virus might be ubiquitous and needs something to activate it," says Moore.

He believes KSHV is an infection that occurs after infection with HIV, and warns, "There is strong evidence we are seeing seroconversion of individuals." He is not sure of the incubation peri-

HEALTH NEWS

JAMA Yesterday, JAMA Tomorrow, and ... JAMA Today On-Line

PRNewswire

The *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA) and Glaxo Wellcome Inc. have announced the creation of a World Wide Web site featuring a collection of peer-reviewed HIV/AIDS information and other resources for healthcare professionals and the public.

The JAMA HIV/AIDS Information Center, funded by an unrestricted educational grant from Glaxo Wellcome, offers clinical updates, news, and information on a broad range of social and policy questions relating to HIV/AIDS. The site is produced and maintained by *JAMA* editors under the guidance of an editorial review panel of top HIV/AIDS authorities. It is accessible through the *JAMA* and *JAMA* Web Sites (<http://www.ama-assn.org>).

"We are excited about using this extraordinary new medium for transmitting valued, peer-reviewed content on medical science and practice to an entirely new audience of patients and their families, in addition to the physicians and other health professionals who have traditionally relied upon our family of journals for their best new medical information," said George D. Lundberg, M.D., editor of *JAMA* and editor-in-chief of *AMA* Scientific Publications and Multimedia.

There are 13 "buttons" on the JAMA HIV/AIDS Web site, each linking users to a particular information area. The site's editors and reviewers try to make it as easy as



Dr. Paul Volberding: "The rapid pace of important new findings in HIV care makes it critical to find ways to share this information as rapidly as possible."

possible for users to find the information they want and need by sifting through offerings from the hundreds of HIV/AIDS sites on the Internet and presenting material they believe to be the most useful. Full-text is posted whenever appropriate or needed, augmented by links and listings of additional

information resources.

The site was launched in mid-December. Eight buttons are now active, with additional information and features to be added regularly over the next two months. Plans also call for the creation of a

Continued on page 30

A New Whey To Fight AIDS?

by Susan Milius
UPI Science Writer

The next weapon in the fight against AIDS may be a preventive ointment made from whey, the watery part of curdled milk. Preliminary tests show that a substance called B69, made from a protein in whey, kept HIV from infecting cells in laboratory tests, says A. Robert Neurath from the New York Blood Center.

Neurath and colleagues pub-

lished the results of their early tests in the peer-reviewed journal *Nature Medicine*. If the compound does as well in animals and people as it did in the test tube, it may be an important step toward the long-sought goal of a low-cost ointment that can be applied topically before sex to reduce disease risks.

"Even if you decrease the probability [of infection] ten-fold, this would have a tremendously significant impact," Neurath said. ▼

problems and diarrhea. Eighty-three percent gained weight during recovery periods, but never restored the loss, and so ratcheted down in weight with each bout of infection.

"Failure to recover is the major problem. ... If you can treat the infection, things are going to get at least somewhat better," he advised.

Dr. Donald P. Kotler at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York said, "Reduced food intake does not explain it all. There are also metabolic changes." He pointed to appetite stimulants, which increase food intake but show little impact on body cell mass. Most of the increase goes to fat – not lean body mass.

Dr. Morris Schambelan, also at UC San Francisco, discussed data on how growth hormones "increase both weight and lean body mass," even turning fat into lean body mass. He has been able to sustain this for two years. He pressed for studies to determine who is the appropriate patient population, when to start therapy, and what is the optimum dosage and regime. ▼

Conference

Continued from page 26

od, but suggests progression to a KS diagnosis may occur as quickly as six months, with a mean time of one and a half years.

The difficulty maintaining cell lines contributes to limited lab work on therapy. Some researchers have speculated that medications used against other herpes viruses might have an effect on KSHV. But no data has been presented.

Wasting Syndrome

AIDS-associated wasting isn't as simple as reduced levels of eating or absorption of food by the body. Research also is pointing to dysfunctions at the cellular level.

Dr. Carl Grunfeld at the University of California at San Francisco proposes "a theory of compounding factors – HIV infection and secondary infection" that leads to weight loss.

He found that 82% of those who lost more than four kilograms (8.8 pounds) in four months also had a secondary infection. Most common were gastro-intestinal

Coping with AIDS?...



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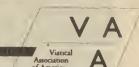
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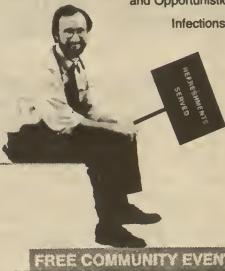
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HEALTH NEWS

Photo: Jane Philmon Cleland

**A Little
Judicious
Levity**

San Francisco Municipal Court judge candidate Kay Tsenin celebrated her birthday Jan. 31 with supporters at a campaign bash replete with cake and other goodies. Among those who turned out to wish her well were Supervisors Barbara Kaufman and Angela Alioto, legendary lesbian sweethearts Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, and Kay's mom.

**Hot-Blooded HIV
Treatment Explored****PRNewswire**

Pittsburgh-based Biocontrol Technology, Inc. announced February 1 that a subsidiary company

has been granted Food and Drug Administration approval to conduct expanded studies of whole-body extracorporeal hyperthermia procedure for the treatment of HIV/AIDS. The treatment artificially induces a fever by heating the blood to affect HIV, which is known to be heat sensitive.

The planned Phase II clinical trial is designed to substantiate the safety of the BioLogic-HT System, and the efficacy of the whole-body extracorporeal hyperthermia treatment for AIDS. A total of 60 patients will be randomly assigned to participate in two groups: half will receive two treatments each at 42 degrees C (107.6 degrees F), and half will serve as a control group, receiving no hyperthermia, but remaining on standard HIV care. Dates and hospital location(s) have not yet been finalized.

Two previous FDA-approved studies on the procedure yielded encouraging results in the ability of the BioLogic-HT System to maintain the safety of the patient during the procedure, and in the effects on HIV. A 1994 study has been accepted for publishing in the March edition of *The Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes and Human Retrovirology*. ▼

rology, and 1995 results are currently being submitted for publishing consideration.

Once expanded studies are completed, approval will be sought under the FDA's expedited AIDS review process, to market the whole-body extracorporeal hyperthermia procedure within the United States. Biocontrol Technology also announced that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office recently granted a patent on the procedure. As the company is positioning itself to market this equipment and procedure in Europe, patents have also been applied for there and are currently pending.

Additionally, the company said that two well-known AIDS researchers have agreed to join its Medical Advisory Board. Dr. Moon Lee is director of the Harbor-UCLA Research and Education Institute retrovirology laboratory and an Associate Researcher in Pediatric Infectious Diseases at UCLA's School of Medicine; Dr. Peter Schick is in private practice with UCLA, and is the founder of the Westside Research Foundation associated with the Harbor-UCLA retrovirology lab. ▼

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Norman

Continued from page 23

who praised Norman's courage and "utter integrity," civil rights attorney and former LIFE Lobby co-chair John Duran, who quoted lesbian singer/songwriter Cris Williamson because his own words "seemed too limited," and Elliot Johnson, Administrator of HIV/AIDS Services at LA County's SP21 Rand Schrader Outpatient Clinic, who concluded his list of her accomplishments with "from me, from the County of Los Angeles to you, Connie, thank you very much."

Paul Daniels, the ASC's current Public Policy Director, recalled the days when he and Norman were both in ACT UP/LA and Norman would stand up to challenge the leaders. "These were not wimpy people," Daniels

said. "But here was this big woman with wild red hair who would get up and go, 'No, No, No.'" Norman would demand that all discussions include transgender kids and drag queens.

"Now, no one had ever met a transsexual before," he said. But eventually everyone came to admire Norman's forthrightness — especially during AIDS Lobbying days in Washington DC when she would walk into a Congressional office and announce: "I'm a transsexual, I'm not just a big gal." That invariably "opened up the discussion," Daniels said.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, McBride observed that one source of Norman's activism was that "she wanted to let every little tranny in the world know that they could grow up to be more than a clown or a whore."

"She has made a difference." ▼

Confirming the Use of Viral Load Tests

by Matthew Sharp
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers' Pool

Viral load monitoring — using viral DNA to count the amount of HIV in a person's bloodstream — is rapidly being recognized as an important tool in HIV/AIDS patient care. Recent data has confirmed what many doctors and researchers have long believed about the importance of this test.

The viral load test is done by two methodologies: the branched DNA test, made by Chiron in Emeryville, and the RNA Polymerase Chain Reaction or RNA-PCR developed by Roche (among other companies). The test counts HIV-RNA copies in blood samples through sensitive techniques.

There is still debate about what the numbers mean — about what constitutes a "good" reading, for example — but it is clear that monitoring their rise and fall can be predictive and guide treatment decisions. Individually and in clinical trials, the test can show whether a treatment is having an effect on the spread of HIV.

The PCR assay is more sensitive, but probably less reliable. At the present time the bDNA is anywhere from \$150-\$200 retail per test, and the PCR is considerably less at \$90-\$150 retail. The two tests have not been compared, so their numbers don't necessarily correlate.

At the recent Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Washington D.C., new viral load data confirmed what researchers and clinicians have been saying: if you can get the viral load down, people live longer. Last week stories in major newspapers across the country indicated that counting HIV-RNA copies in the blood may be the most accurate gauge of HIV disease progression we have.

Useful Test in Trials

Prior to its current widespread use, the viral load was shown to be a useful test in clinical trials of anti-retroviral drugs. In a previous Writers' Pool article, the AIDS Clinical Trials Group ddl studies (ACTG 116B-117) were cited, which showed the effectiveness of the test. Since then confirmations of the usefulness of viral load are coming from Pharmacia & Upjohn's delavirdine studies. 1,900 patients were enrolled in two studies that compared delavirdine plus ddl vs. ddl alone, and in the second trial, AZT vs. delavirdine. The studies also compared clinical outcome to the surrogate markers (laboratory indicators of disease progression), which include viral load. In these studies viral load did a better job of predicting who would die or develop AIDS-related infections than did CD4 count, which until now has been the standard surrogate marker. Counting copies of viral RNA in the blood would seem to make more sense than the indirect effect of the virus on immune cells such as CD4s.

One of the investigators in the delavirdine study, Dr. John Phair, stated in a press release, "These results suggest the threshold level of viral burden which, when reached by anti-retroviral therapy, may delay progression to AIDS illnesses and death. Physicians, patients, and payers will have more confidence that therapy choices are working."

Dr. Bill Owen, a local HIV physician who uses the viral load extensively in his practice, believes "The viral load is not only



Dr. Marcus Conant.

important for making treatment decisions, but is important to determine if a patient is clinically stable and therefore helps in making a decision *not* to treat them."

Dr. Marcus Conant, a nationally recognized Bay Area HIV doctor, is taking it a step further by ordering the PCR test in his practice. He states that "the technology is equally good for both tests; Chiron needs to get its second generation [more sensitive] test on the market and make it more available."

But Who's Gonna Pay?

The biggest issue regarding viral load is not whether it works, but whether people with AIDS can access the test.

In mid-America viral load tests are simply not available, due to inadequate laboratories. Although physicians can send blood samples away, the cost incurred can add up. Dr. Aline Brown, an infectious disease doctor in Oklahoma City, doesn't use the tests because of their inaccessibility. In the Bay Area, where tests are available, some HMOs like Kaiser Permanente are reluctant to pay, no matter how overwhelming the evidence or how much the demand. They choose to wait until the bureaucratic, snail-paced FDA sanctions the test. (According to Conant, the same Kaiser wouldn't pay for CD4 testing before its approval in the mid-eighties.)

Getting that FDA approval of this type of surrogate marker can be problematic. However, for the first time we are seeing proof in large trials that may speed the tests' authorization. A University of Pittsburgh study followed 181 patients for ten years and found in those with lower viral loads the onset of AIDS was in eight years; for those with higher viral loads, the progression to AIDS was in 6.5 years; and in other even higher viral loads, the time to development of AIDS was 4.5 and 2.5 years respectively.

According to Owen, the application for the bDNA has been "fast tracked" by placing it in the "devices" category. The delavirdine and Pittsburgh studies strongly confirm what is already known about viral load, so — barring a government shutdown — we may

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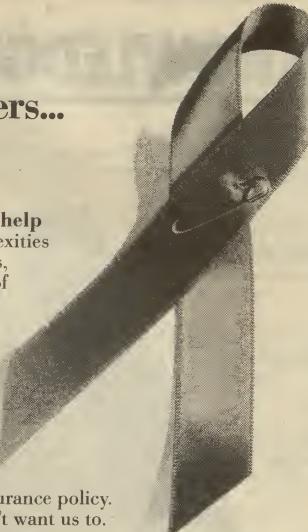
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Combo Breakthrough?

by Michael C. Botkin

Last week the mainstream media burst out with a number of page-one headlines, trumpeting a new combo that was "the most powerful AIDS treatment ever." This cleverly claims a superlative on the basis of comparison against currently available mediocre medications. The touted combo was, of course, one of the new protease inhibitors combined with good old AZT and the newish 3TC. I just don't understand what makes this data "news," let alone page-one news.

Part of the tweak was that the combo reduced the virus to undetectable levels in most of the patients treated. This sounds close to "turning seronegative," the Holy Grail of many alternative

treatments. But in fact it's just a reflection of the new HIV tracking technology, the viral load test. My guess is that good old AZT, taken by itself, could reduce the viral load in a "treatment naive" HIVer to near nothing — for a few months. Then the virus — undetectable but still present — mutates into a resistant form and recommences reproduction.

The duration of the good results is another suspicious angle. The viral suppression was seen to endure for almost six months, although the scientists caution that it remains to be seen how much longer the benefit will last.

The problem is that it really doesn't remain to be seen. Pilot studies, lab studies, and smaller clinical trials all strongly suggest that after six months, or maybe a year, the protease inhibitor effect

fades due to the development of drug-resistant strains. This was known a good two years ago.

The hope is that the three-way combo will slow the development of resistance. And it does seem to, perhaps by several months. Is it a significant advance? Undoubtedly. Is it a "breakthrough?" Definitely not. Is it page-one news? Apparently, but it's not clear why.

One Year

The most disappointing thing about the whole flap is the rather limited value of the therapy they're offering. The three-way, protease and reverse-transcriptase combo is designed to do what good old AZT was supposed to do by itself: block viral reproduction. This antiviral strategy fails to either completely eliminate HIV or to undo its devastation of the immune system. The best it can hope to do is stop further degeneration. And it only does this until resistance develops.

Combining antivirals seems to slow the development of resistant strains. HIV develops resistance to AZT in about six months and to protease inhibitors in six months to a year. Combos of the two different brands of antivirals seem to postpone resistance until well into the second year of treatment. But this is just a gain of a year, on the average. A year of life is no small reward, but it's so far from a cure that it's painful.

In fact, the whole antiviral strategy seems to be maxing out. They're effective in that they save some lives or at least delay

some deaths. They're most effective in making profits, however. The over-the-counter cost of the three recently headlined antivirals is probably around \$20,000 a year. This means that only the wealthiest nations can afford it; Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Central and South America are out of luck.

And what are we lucky, wealthy ones paying out the big bucks for? A couple of years of "bounce." If that. After all, AZT flunked its survivability trial, and patients getting that antiviral didn't outlive those on placebo. They did report a "better quality of life" than the controls, but this is a far weaker indicator.

The anti-antivirals, who refuse to take any of the alphabet soup of HIV-targeting drugs, instead focusing on prophylaxis for various opportunistic infections, do almost as well as HIV mainstreamers. Unless, of course, they get some weird nervous system infection. And the value of an antiviral will vary from person to person. One person may be able to choke down huge doses without trouble, while another responds to even a small amount with nausea, peripheral neuropathy, and maybe an exploding pancreas or liver.

Shaky Ground

The recent profusion of antivirals does open up some limited flexibility. If you can't take AZT, you can try D4T (the only other antiviral that crosses the blood brain barrier). If D4T makes you sick, you can try ddC. If you can handle anything at all, you may as well take 3TC, which doesn't seem to do much by itself but apparently makes it harder for HIV to develop resistance to your other antivirals. And now there's a whole wave of protease inhibitors, one from each major pharmaceutical corporation, tearing down the pike. One has already been approved (and now that I think of it, the PR flacks pushing it are probably behind these recent page-one headlines); another will probably be on the market within a few months.

But the sad fact is that a whole complex combo only succeeds in

doing what AZT did in its first six months. You can prolong the "bounce," using viral load tests to judge when to jump to new antivirals. However, you can't really interrupt the basic course of the disease.

There are some treatments that offer to do just that, generally falling under the "immune restoration" category. These, unfortunately, tend to be even more expensive and experimental. Human Growth Hormone, which saved my life and put over 20 lbs. on my wasted frame in a month, costs \$150 a day. Thank you, MediCal, for paying for it, and thank you ACT UP/Golden Gate for making them pay for it.

Clearly, this costs too much to be widely used, but it does offer some hope for future research. Why keep pushing the antivirals, which at their best don't even come close to a "cure," instead of looking at forms of immune restoration?

There are a number of reasons. The channel of antiviral research is well-mapped, from early pre-lab studies all the way through to licensing and marketing. It's very expensive to launch an antiviral, so much so that only a half-dozen corporations can even consider it. But, done according to formula, it's pretty much a guaranteed profit.

Immune restoration is on much shakier ground on which to reap a profit. It's not clear if certain neurotransmitters and hormones can be patented, like some nice lab-grown chemical. It requires a lot of work on the immune system, a horribly messy realm with poorly marked turf. Unlike most of the currently available or soon to be available antivirals, none of the immune restoration therapies has demonstrated an ability to make a profit (though Serono's Growth Hormone, at \$150 a shot, should soon do just that).

So the mainstream continues to force out the occasional burst of enthusiasm for the traditional, profitable forms of AIDS treatments. But the truly promising therapies await the day when they offer, not hope to PWAs, but profit to pharmaceutical corporations. ▶

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Continued from page 27

community advisory panel to help the site's editors and reviewers in selecting and posting information of greatest relevance and use to consumers.

Three members of the Web site's editorial review panel emphasized the project's usefulness in helping to quickly disseminate current information about HIV/AIDS to a variety of users.

"The rapid pace of important new findings in HIV care makes it critical to find ways to share this information as rapidly as possible," said Paul Volberding, M.D., director of the AIDS program at San Francisco General Hospital. "At this time, the amount of material available makes it necessary to help those who need it find the best information as efficiently as possible. The JAMA HIV/AIDS Web site promises much in both regards and will prove to be an essential tool of AIDS care and research."

Features now active on the Web site include Journal Scan, a review of major HIV/AIDS articles recently published in the world's scientific journals, as selected by members of the editorial review

panel; the JAMA/Archives Library, a full-text, peer-reviewed collection of HIV/AIDS papers published in the AMA's scientific journals over the past two years; and Newsline, daily updates from a number of sources, including Reuters Health Information Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and a soon-to-be-added "cyberjournalist" specializing in HIV/AIDS coverage.

Other features provide users with Practice Guidelines, a peer-reviewed collection of clinical protocols for HIV/AIDS and related conditions; Patient Information, basic answers to frequently asked questions about the epidemic; Training Center, information on how physicians and other health care professionals can become better trained to deal with HIV/AIDS; Global Link, a one-stop listing of selected links to international HIV/AIDS Web sites; and Glossary, an explanation of terms associated with HIV/AIDS and related conditions.

Over the next few months, additional buttons will link users to treatment information, expert advice, ethics and policy updates, patient support groups and other resource material, and a "Best of the Net" feature listing experts' favorite HIV/AIDS Web sites. ▶

HEALTH & COMMUNITY

ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues., Thurs. nights, 7:30pm at 592 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

ACT UP SF: committed to ending the AIDS crisis thru direct action. 1388 Haight St., #218 94117. Info: 522-2907.

Acupuncture: The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture. Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV-Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Bereavement Group: Eight week session begins Mon., March 4, 6:30pm. St. Mary's Medical Ctr., 2200 Hayes. Pre-registration, 750-5718.

AIDS Dementia Unit at St. Mary's

Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Ed Schultz, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project: Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

AIDS Memorial Grove: Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Treatment Education Network provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project offers family counseling, support groups and events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 566-5683.

BAHAN (Bay Area HIV Advocacy Network) is a grassroots program of the SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax tree action alerts, govt lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. Info: Ryan Clay 864-5855 ext. 3032.

Baker Places provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bereavement Groups for family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 550-4404.

California AIDS Ride 3 volunteer orientations Feb. 14, 21, 7pm; 24, 1pm, SF Marriott, 55 4th St. Call 908-0400.

Positive Humanists and Friends Club: Focus on self-acceptance, promoting belief in long-term survival. Info: 642-3840.

Positive Living for Us: free weekend seminar for recently-tested HIV+. Info: Alfredo, 356-8129.

Positive Resource provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Pride & Prejudice: a welcoming group to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm, at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

Project HOPE offers HIV prevention counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Inform: HIV/AIDS treatment info hotline, 558-9051; journal, and educational Town Meetings.

800-822-7422.

Richard M. Cohen Residence, SF's first assisted-living residence for people disabled by AIDS, needs volunteer donations (call Wayne April, 282-6209).

Under One Roof, the Shop for AIDS Relief, seeks volunteers to work on the sales floor and in the office. Call Mary Beth, 252-9430.

Veterans Affairs Medical Center SF seeks volunteers to join its AIDS/ARC Volunteer Program. Volunteers visit patients in hospital and help in simple care tasks. Volunteers for AIDS Home Care and Phone Buddy Program are also needed. Contact Ronald Hunt, AIDS Volunteer Program Coordinator, VA Medical Center, 4150 Clement St., 750-2144.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

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The following person(s) are doing business as 1) STYLE, 2) STYLE COMMUNICATIONS, 402 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114; DEBORAH L. CLIFFORD, 402 Sanchez St. San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of NA. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DEBORAH L. CLIFFORD. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 16, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201748
The following person(s) are doing business as GIBSON LINES, 15 Masonic Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118; GIBSON LINES LLC, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 1905 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. Registrant(s) commence business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 01, 1996. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed DONALD B. GIBSON, MEMBER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 25, 1996.

Feb 08, 15, 22, 29, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201375

The following person(s) are doing business as DONALD CLEANERS, 15 Masonic Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118; AMY AUYEUNG, 49 Clinton St., San Francisco, CA 94112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 11, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed AMY AUYEUNG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 11, 1996.

Jan 18, 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201718

The following person(s) are doing business as MC KENZIE GRAPHICS, 110 Sutter Street, Suite 312, San Francisco, CA 94104; LANA FAYE KURTZ, 120 West 3rd Avenue, #903, San Mateo, CA 94402. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 25, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed LANA KURTZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 25, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201791

The following person(s) are doing business as KELLY'S KIDS, 151 1/2 UNION Street, 3245 Clay Street, #4, San Francisco, CA 94115; TERRY KETLER, 3245 Clay Street, #4, San Francisco, CA 94115. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 29, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed TERRY KETLER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 29, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201785

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) W.M. EXPRESSES, 2) WESTERN ATTORNEY SERVICES, 3) TRANS BAY EXPRESS, 75 Columbia Square, San Francisco, CA 94103-4015; WESTERN MESSENGER SERVICE, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 75 Columbia Square, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Aug 20, 1979. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed RAYMOND R. CROSETTI, VICE-PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 26, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201519

The following person(s) are doing business as BERNAL HEIGHTS ACUPUNCTURE & YOGA, 28 1/2 Precita Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110; YOHANA KNOBLOCH, 28 1/2 Precita Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 18, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed YOHANA KNOBLOCH. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 18, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201885

The following person(s) are doing business as BERNAL HEIGHTS ACUPUNCTURE & YOGA, 28 1/2 Precita Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110; SCOTT J. THOMPSON, 443 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 20, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed SCOTT THOMPSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 31, 1996.

Feb 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201921

The following person(s) are doing business as MAFIOSI SISTERS DIGITAL IMAGING, 2760 22nd Street, San Francisco, CA 94110; KANE ELLEN, 2760 22nd Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed KANE ELLEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb. 01, 1996.

Feb 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201921

The following person(s) are doing business as LEATHER NAVIGATOR MEDIA, 3855 17th Street #4, San Francisco, CA 94114; THOMAS A. vanden BROECK, 3855 17th Street #4, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb 01, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed THOMAS A. vanden BROECK. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb 01, 1996.

Feb 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201919

The following person(s) are doing business as AROMI, 1580 Lombard Street, #3, San Francisco, CA 94123; HOSEIN KHAIBANI, 1580 Lombard Street, #3, San Francisco, CA 94123. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 29, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed HOSEIN KHAIBANI. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 29, 1996.

Feb 08, 15, 22, 1996.

B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201627

The following person(s) are doing business as POWER, 2284 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94115; RICHARD MARK CUNNINGHAM, 19 Forest Side Ave., San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 22, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RICHARD M. CUNNINGHAM. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 22, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201849

The following person(s) are doing business as ALL CARS & TURKS DISMANTLING, 1901 1/2 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94124; FRED ANGELO SALA, 190 Dartmouth Street, San Francisco, CA 94134 and STEVE RIBERO, 622 Cordova Street, Daly City, CA 94014. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 30, 1996. This business is conducted by co-partnership. Signed FRED SALA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 30, 1996.

Feb 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201298

The following person(s) are doing business as THE LIGHTING GROUP, 200 Pine Street, #200, San Francisco, CA 94104; EXPERT ELECTRIC, 284 A. Richmond Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110; SCOTT J. THOMPSON, 443 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 19, 1995. This business is conducted by a partnership. Signed MICHAEL KARASIK, TRASURER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 12, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201615

The following person(s) are doing business as WISEWOMAN CHILDRENS TRADITIONS, 526 Liberty St., San Francisco, CA 94114; MARIA A. IORILLO, 526 Liberty St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed MARIA A. IORILLO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 22, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200888

The following person(s) are doing business as PERRY ANDI-SUES, 2888 Bryant Street, San Francisco, CA 94110; PERRY GREGG, 2888 Bryant St., San Francisco, CA 94110 and Andrea White, 2888 Bryant St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Dec 15, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PERRY GREGG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Dec. 19, 1996.

Jan 18, 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201819

The following person(s) are doing business as AROMI, 1580 Lombard Street, #3, San Francisco, CA 94123; HOSEIN KHAIBANI, 1580 Lombard Street, #3, San Francisco, CA 94123. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 29, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed HOSEIN KHAIBANI. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 29, 1996.

Feb 08, 15, 22, 1996.

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 975693

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of BRADLEY GREG WALONICK for change of name. The application of ABEL HENRY EXCALONA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that BRADLEY GREG WALONICK has filed an application proposing the name be changed to BRAD ANTHONY DEYOUNG. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department, X-4 on the 26 day of January, 1996 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or on the day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 11th day of January, 1996.

Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974227

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ABEL HENRY EXCALONA for change of name. The application of ABEL HENRY EXCALONA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ABEL HENRY EXCALONA has filed an application proposing the name be changed to ABEL VALDIVIA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department, X-4 on the 26 day of January, 1996 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. or on the day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 11th day of January, 1996.

Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 1996.



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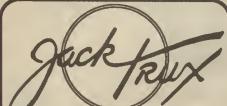
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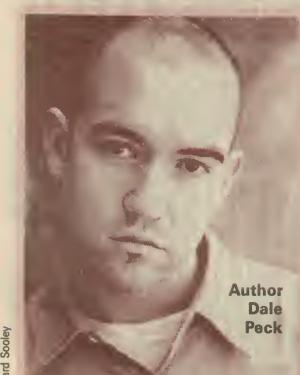
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Author
Dale
Peck

Son Rise

by Jim Coughenour

The Law of Enclosures by Dale Peck; Farrar Straus Giroux, \$23

Readers restless for a fresh orgy of emotional laceration need wait no longer. Dale Peck, the gifted young author of *Martin and John*, is back in print with *The Law of Enclosures*. This time the victims are Hank and Bea, supposedly the parents of the eponymous John of Peck's first novel. (I say "supposedly" because the only details that bind that John to these parents are the accidents of name and sex.) *The Law of Enclosures* restates the dual theme of *Martin and John* — the mortal disintegration of love — but transposes its intensity into a more languid, heterosexual key. The bitter bleakness remains the same.

The main difference between the two novels is that the bits of autobiography implicit in the first are made explicit in the second. In fact, the structural peculiarity of *The Law of Enclosures* may be its most interesting feature. The sad story of Hank and Bea's marriage sandwiches the sad story of Dale Peck's childhood: in the center of the novel Peck has inserted his "Lamentations," a scathing memoir of his dead mother, his three stepmothers, and, most pointedly, his father.

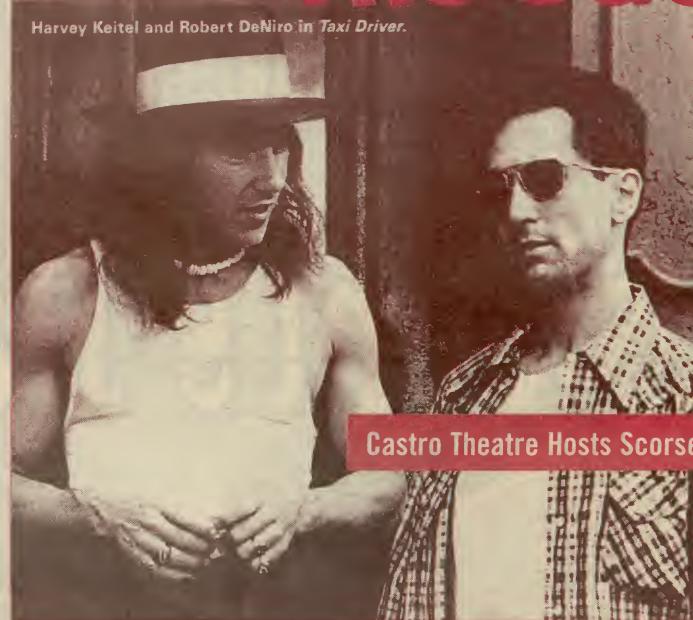
One may doubt the wisdom of this decision. This center section is by far the rawest, most powerful writing in the book — the molten core that turns the rest to crust. Next to the seared white flesh of their creator, Hank and Bea dim like twin traces of an earlier anguish, just two grim shadows etched by the atomic blast.

There are other problems. One is the stereoscopic lens through

Continued on page 47

Photo: Richard Soley

The Secret of His Success

Harvey Keitel and Robert DeNiro in *Taxi Driver*.

Castro Theatre Hosts Scorsese Fest

by Gary Morris

Martin Scorsese is a rarity — a director who has found commercial and critical success and still maintained a personal edge in his work. After some early stumbles, his films began earning consistent praise, and two of them, *Taxi Driver* (1976) and *Raging Bull* (1980), are now widely acclaimed as seminal. Like the classic Hollywood studio auteurs he's admired and championed, Scorsese has worked in many genres, from musicals (*New York, New York*) to black comedies (*After Hours*) to boxing films (*Raging Bull*) and, most tellingly, gangster films (*Mean Streets*, *Goodfellas*, *Casino*). His collaborations with actors like Robert De Niro and Harvey Keitel have made him the natural successor to Elia Kazan. He's also endeared himself

Continued on page 40

Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy

by Adrian Roberts

Somewhere over the course of the past seven years, campy pop combo Enrique became a local institution. From their auspicious beginnings as a '70s-style cover band to their current status as San Francisco's premier kitsch rock act, Enrique has persevered in their on-going effort to make the world safe for pop-culture-damaged rock 'n' roll.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with the two male singers, both named Enrique, the band's female singer, Fish, and drummer/producer Christian Matthews. Enrique's debut album, the ironically-titled *Cut The Cheese*, had just been released, and my first question was: what the hell took so long?

"For so long everything was all about the live show," explains Enrique. "That was where all the energy and money went. I think it was always in the back of our minds that we'd be discovered, but then it finally seemed like we needed tangible evidence of our existence. We were tired of waiting for something big to happen."

Taking matters into their own hands, Enrique spent four months early last year doing a series of late-night

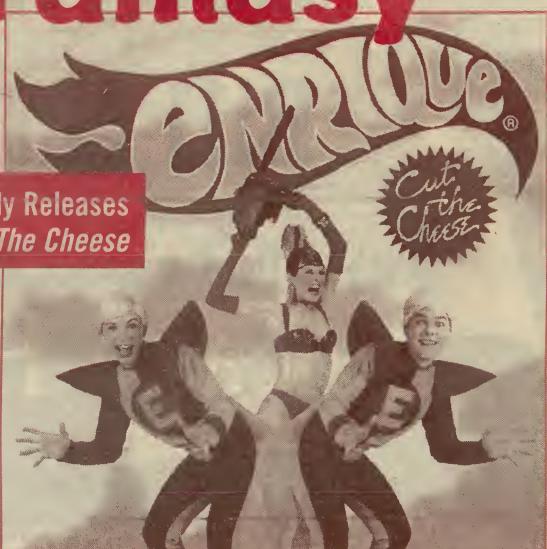
Enrique Finally Releases
Debut CD *Cut The Cheese*

Photo: Marc Geller Graphics: Kevin Lyons

THEATRE

'Two
Fools':
bright yet
tender

page 43



CABARET

Chad Jones on
the first West
Coast Cabaret
Convention

page 45

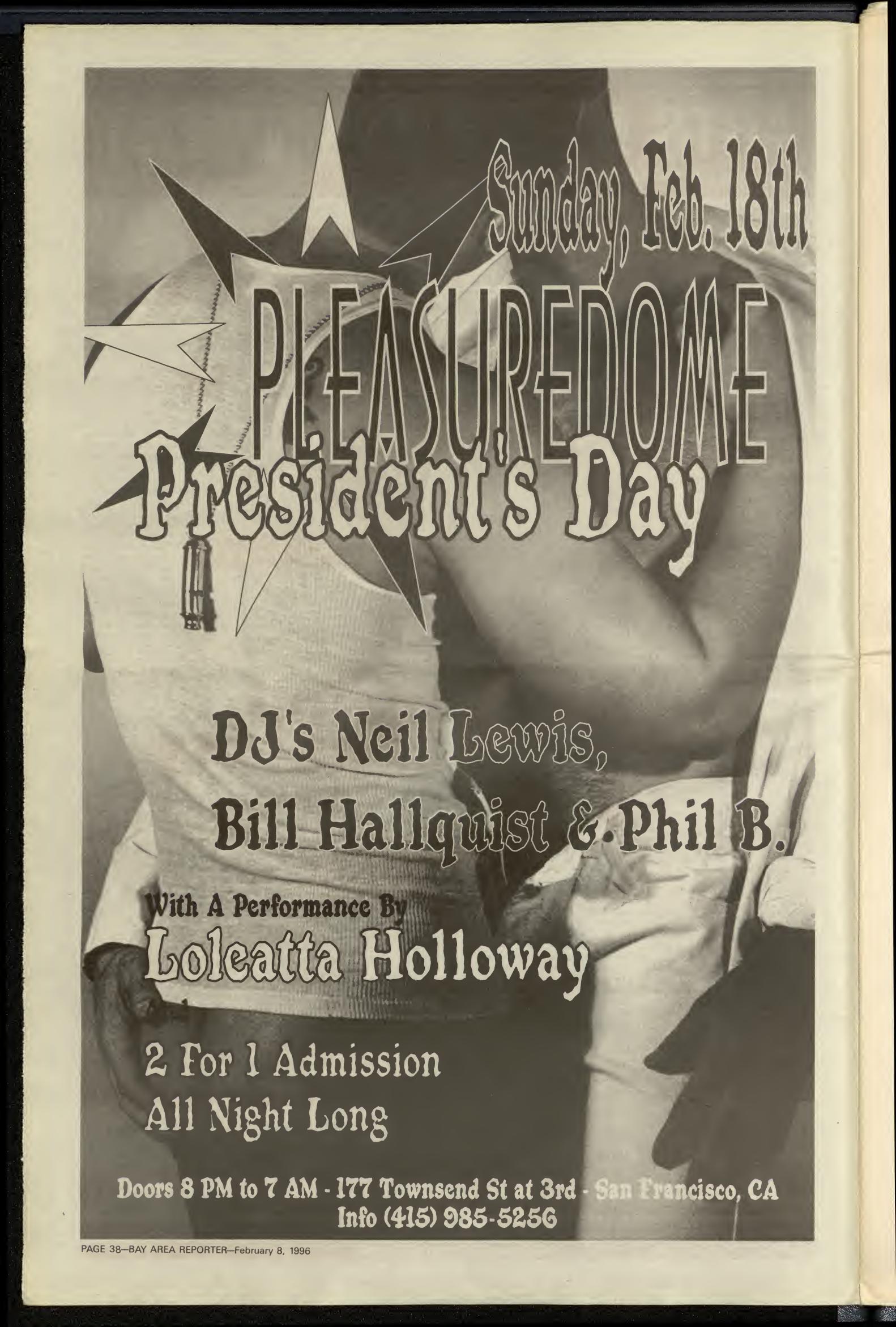
FILM

'Angels and
Insects': sex,
lies and class
issues

page 42

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OUT THERE

by Polly Popular, Tara Bastille and Justin Zane

Birmingham's favorite queer film professor, Richard Dyer, was spotted last week at Cafe Flore accompanied by the enchanting Italian opera director Giorgio Morini. The two love-birds are in town for a few weeks while Dyer has a visiting lecture stint at UC Davis. Bay Area Ryan Idol fans may recall Dyer's erudite clip-and-comment homage to Ryan, "Idol Thoughts," from the 1994 Lesbian and Gay Film Fest.

Seems a fancy-pants cabaret diva (hint: he just wrote a real boring book about his real boring self), in town for the West Coast Cabaret Convention, stopped by Star Classics CD store on Hayes St. last week to join their mini-performance and CD signing party. Dozens of the Convention's stars were there and were just as gracious as could be — except Missy Diva. When an older gentleman with a stack of newly purchased CDs approached Her Highness with a request to autograph a CD, the haughty crooner sniffed and said, "I cannot sign anything. You'll have to talk to my agent." He turned around and walked away. Wasn't too many years ago that this cabaret crabapple was hustling around this city's cabaret rooms, pen in hand, willing to sign any little thing. Oh, bittersweet success!



Ann Hampton Callaway

A much nicer cabaret queen was in town recently, Ann Hampton Callaway, whose January 30 show at the New Orleans Room was woefully underattended. Only a handful of people were in the audience, a hotel employee, a married couple, an aging cabaret queen, and of course, John F. Karrwreck, who was heard chortling away in a corner about Callaway being "simply wonderful." A spy tells us that after the show Karrwreck chatted with the chanteuse. "The last time I heard you in San Francisco was in 1981," he chirped, rainbow earrings dancing. The singer effusively responded: "That was when I met the person who has meant the most to me and who I've reconnected with and who is with me now." As he turned to leave, Karrwreck reportedly mumbled to his date, "Is that person a man or a woman?" Indeed, her wording was a bit curious.

Speaking of Karr, the Lurid One bounded into the office the other day loaded down with review copies of *Did She or Didn't She?*, a dishy new tell-all by local author Mart Martin. Subtitled *Behind the Bedroom Doors of 201 Famous Women*, this delightfully tawdry book lists some of the nasty, squishy rumors about the sex lives of the great screen stars.



Here's what Bette Davis had to say about Joan Crawford's romps in the hay: "She's slept with every male star at MGM except *Lassie*." And Truman Capote claimed that whenever Gloria Vanderbilt had sex with husband Wyatt Cooper, she'd scream "Daddy, Daddy, Daddy!"

In addition to telling who slept with whom, *Did She or Didn't She?* also features colorful little anecdotes and quotes about each star, some told by other celebrities. It's a real dish fest. Here's Truman Capote on Gloria V.: "She was a nasty little girl. She lied about her mother during her custody trial and she was terrible to her until shortly before she died." Or Gloria Swanson on Lana Turner: "She wasn't an actress ... she was a trollop." Faye Dunaway fans will love the tale about the cat fight she had over a dress with Raquel Welch.



Queen Faye

Martin's tome underscores some fascinating little facts about the stars, namely that Robert Taylor, David Niven, Orson Welles and Dean Martin probably knew more about sex than some of Frisco's most lecherous tea-room queens. Niven's list of possible liaisons includes: Grace Kelley, Barbara Hutton, Rita Hayworth, Doris Duke, Ida Lupino, Carol Lombard, Hedy Lamarr, Deborah Kerr, Evelyn Keyes, and on and on. As for the girls, Joan Crawford, Madonna, Liz and Marlene D. come up with the longest list of names. *Did She or Didn't She?* is available in bookstores for \$12. 95.

The entire company of the new New York rock opera *Rent* is in a daze since the January 26 death of the show's author, composer and director, Jonathan Larson. In the wee hours of the morning the day before the show's first preview,

Larson returned to his Greenwich Village apartment, where he was found dead by a roommate a few hours later. *Variety* reports that the cause of death is still unknown, though Larson had been complaining of flu-like symptoms for several days. He would have turned 36 on Sunday, February 4.

Rent is set in the East Village, and it's loosely based on Puccini's *La Bohème* — but in *Rent*, Mimi is not dying of consumption, but of AIDS. When news of Larson's death spread

last week, members of the company gathered at the New York Theater Workshop for a private performance for Larson's parents. *Rent* was their son's first major show. It opens in New York on February 13.

Polly Popular would like to make a public apology to Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman for an item she included in last week's *Out There* about their film adaptation of Vito Russo's *The Celluloid Closet*. (The film won the Playboy Foundation's "Freedom of Expression Award," the only Sundance award with a \$5,000 cash prize.) It was a scathing comment, thoughtlessly reported. Sometimes Polly forgets that anyone ac-

tually reads this column or takes it seriously. Polly's favorite Buddhist quotation book offered the following words of wisdom on her deeply regretted lapse of judgment: "Happiness comes when your work and words are of benefit to yourself and others." And, on a more ominous note: "Karma means you don't get away with anything."

At the Big Apple's neo-con *NYPress*, letters were flying last week as outraged gays and bemused het responded to Zach Parisi's cover story about how all of New York is going queer. We found one letter especially amusing: "All of New York City will not be gay soon, but all of Parisi will. His article had all the hallmarks of a closeted gay man desperately trying to keep his self-loathing from emerging by transferring it onto someone else — in this case an entire city. Parisi is just another bottom waiting to happen."

Not of A Bad 'Party': We recently reported on a soon-to-be-coming-out-way-flick, *It's My Party*, starring Eric Roberts and Gregory Harrison, about a guy dying of AIDS who throws a huge goodbye party for his friends. We were a bit worried that the film might be just a tad too sentimental, but roving film critic Brandon Judell saw the film last week at a NY press screening and he assures us it's pretty good.

"It made me cry," Brandy blurted over the phone, incoherently (he's recovering at home with painkillers these days, after being brutally tossed out of a Manhattan theater for making strange sounds during a showing of *White Squall*). "It's very low-budget, but Eric Roberts is fabu-

lous." Harrison, who plays the ex-lover who leaves Roberts when he finds out that his beau is HIV-positive, is "mostly fine, too." As for all those cameos by hangers-on like Margaret Cho and Lee Grant, Judell says they're not so bad, "but pale by comparison to the young things in *Squall*." *It's My Party* opens here in March.

Kiddie Stuff: *Kids in the Hall's* Scott Thompson has always dreamed of a career in movies, and his dream is about to come true. Thompson, along with David Foley, Bruce McCulloch, Kevin McDonald and Mark McKinney, his cohorts from the long-running, acclaimed Canadian comedy show, will star in his own film, *The Kids in the Hall Movie*, which opens here April 12. The film is produced by Lorne Michaels (which could be bad news) and concerns some sort of madness about a drug craze that suddenly sweeps the nation. (Rumor has it the film was once called *The Pill*, which, for obvious reasons, had to go.)

If you've been wondering what Jennifer Saunders and Julia Sawalha have been up to since *Absolutely Fabulous* ended last year, wonder no more. Saunders and Sawalha will both appear in Kenneth Branagh's upcoming *A Midwinter's Tale*. The film, obviously a comedy, concerns a struggling actor's attempts to mount a production of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Saunders plays an overbearing Hollywood producer who rejects the actor's concept of the play, while Sawalha essays the scattered, short-sighted girl cast as Ophelia. Joan Collins co-stars as an overzealous Hollywood agent. Opens here February 23. ▼

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FILM



Mean Streets is Scorsese's fantasy about the pleasures of belonging to the "boy's club."

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Scorsese

Continued from cover

to film buffs by focusing attention on forgotten works by cinema's past masters, Michael Powell (*Peeping Tom*) among them.

Hence, it's somehow surprising that now, in 1996, Scorsese's work is showing signs of age. As personal as his projects have been — and no director has been more autobiographical — the films are often so tied to the era that produced them that they've lost some of their luster. A film like *Taxi Driver*, which once seemed so vigorous in detailing an apocalyptic, post-Vietnam America, now appears less resonant. Part of this may have less to do with Scorsese than with history, as reality has to some extent caught up with and surpassed his grim vision. Now when we gaze upon mohawked Travis Bickle, the self-described "God's lonely man," he pales by comparison to today's real-life terrorists. And there are other Scorsese characters, like Jake LaMotta or Jimmy Doyle, who lack so many human characteristics — irony, introspection, humor, a capacity for change — that Scorsese's single-minded focus on them threatens to capsize the narrative structures built around them.

A deeper problem becomes clear when viewing his films as a whole. Scorsese's work is an extended onscreen autobiography, especially in films like *Mean Streets*, *Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull* and *Goodfellas*. His is a narrow, extremely conflicted view of unstable, even pathological male drives, religious fanaticism, and a phobic view of sexuality and women. This psychological world is brilliantly detailed in the films themselves.

While autobiography is rightly

suspect as an explanation of artistic choices, Scorsese has been so vocal about his early years that they must be considered when trying to make sense of the man's work. Scorsese was born in 1942 and raised a strict Catholic in the New York Italian ghettos of Queens and Little Italy. Asthmatic and puny, he was a natural target for neighborhood bullies. He defended himself with a native wit and by aggressively lashing out. The bullies became the petty Mafiosi who bled the neighborhood, but, as ugly as it was, the seemingly glamorous life they led — a whirlwind of violence, money, drugs, and girls — made a profound impression on Scorsese. In the films, the director's fascination for this lifestyle finds expression in the use of hypermasculine locales — the pool hall, the boxing ring — places the undersized Scorsese would not have been able to penetrate in real life. Movies, which were an early obsession on a par with religion, would open doors that his Catholic upbringing and frail constitution kept closed.

Wants to belong

Scorsese's first major, mainstream feature was *Mean Streets* (1973). Here, in fully developed form, are all the elements that viewers have learned to associate with the director: a gritty, incisive visual style, with touches of verite; passionate male camaraderie that veers into self-pity and self-destruction; women who threaten that male camaraderie; and a permeating Catholicism that torments the characters even as it offers a means of escape.

The film is set in Little Italy. Charlie Cappa (Harvey Keitel) is a Mafia errand boy who, though he is protected by family connections and his girlfriend Teresa (Amy Robinson), is tormented by religious guilt. His best friend Johnny Boy (Robert De Niro) is in many ways his opposite — relaxed, unattached, unprincipled. The story explores the extended loose-knit family of young urban men who casually brawl, obsess over and betray each other.

To some degree, *Mean Streets* is Scorsese's fantasy about the pleasures of belonging to "the boys' club," of being an insider, which seems obvious when Johnny Boy walks into the club in his underwear. The freedom Scorsese's street thugs seek can only be found in such places, surrounded by other men. The easily available women are a lure — Johnny Boy effortlessly picks up two Jewish girls, but they're treated more like irrelevant commodities than human beings.

The queer subtext in Scorsese's films is also established in *Mean Streets*, particularly in scenes involving Johnny Boy, whose violent lunges at other guys suggest a kind of phallic undertone. His screams of "Come over here, I'll put this [gun] up your ass!" take on a sexual dimension in the hysterical male atmosphere of the film. *Mean Streets* and the films that follow can be read on one



Jodie Foster in *Taxi Driver*.

level as coded homosexual trysts. In *The Last Temptation of Christ* (1988) the major relationship is between Christ (Willem Dafoe) and Judas (Harvey Keitel), even though Christ is constantly struggling with his lust for women. In one scene, Judas sounds like a spurned lover: "You broke my heart ... you took me in your arms and betrayed me ... I loved you so much!" He seems quite disgusted with his buddy's heterosexuality: "What business do you have here with women, with children?"

Hip 'Death Wish'

Taxi Driver takes an almost biblical view of the horrors of

Continued on next page

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Rebecca Miller's First Film Fizzles **Still Birth**

by Robert Julian

Writer/director Rebecca Miller's first film, *Angela*, is a peculiar and exceedingly slow tale of two young siblings with a manic-depressive mother and a father who can barely cope with his parental responsibilities. Poor and isolated, the children inhabit a fantasy world of their own where they try to take responsibility for their mother's declining mental health — with disastrous consequences. In spite of this promising premise, the film's potential remains unfulfilled due to leaden pacing and a script that fails to adequately develop the characters.

Ellie, the younger sibling, is nicely played as a true innocent by Charlotte Blythe. But in the pivotal title role, Miranda Stuart Rhyne fails to render a believable

characterization. Her Angela is flat and monotonous. Rhyne always seems to be acting, something that is only highlighted by Blythe's completely natural screen presence. Anna Thomson and John Ventimiglia, as the parents, do their best to create the dysfunctional ambiance that gives rise to the delusional behavior of the children, but these actors are not helped by sketchy dialogue punctuated by long, meaningless pauses.

It would seem that Miller intends the imaginary world of the children to be heavy with mystical significance. There are scenes in a church, baptisms in a river, and figures who represent angels, the devil, and "the virgin." But Angela, with her flat affect and bizarre domination of the bad seed, seems more like the bad seed than a lost and tormented innocent caught up in an imaginary world. And the presence of the mystical visitors neither advances the plot nor reveals anything about the main characters. As both writer

and director, Rebecca Miller seems out of her element.

This is Miller's first film, and some allowances must be made for inexperience. But it doesn't take a Scorsese to keep the boom out of a shot, and in one scene by the railroad tracks, Miller fails at even this fundamental task. It seems highly unlikely that this film would have been made at all if it weren't for the fact that Miller is the daughter of playwright Arthur Miller and photographer Inge Morath. To her credit, Miller has employed talented cinematographer Ellen Kuras, who provides some exceedingly beautiful images. Last year, Kuras did equally spectacular work for Douglas Keeve's documentary, *Unzipped*. Although Kuras seems destined to have a successful film career, writer/director Miller may want to rethink her options. ▼

Angela opens February 9 at the Lumière in San Francisco and at the Shattuck in Berkeley.



Miranda Stuart Rhyne in *Rebecca Miller's Angela*.

Scorsese

Continued from page 40

sex. The rottenness of Travis Bickle's world is explicitly connected with sleazy porno theatres, whores, pimps and unobtainable "angelic" virgins (Cybill Shepherd). No attempt is made to look at larger social forces — e.g., the destruction of community by corporate capitalism — as a more reliable source for Bickle's problems. The film, written by Scorsese's frequent collaborator and fellow religioso Paul Schrader, unequivocally suggests violence as the solution to psychic maladjustment, and Bickle gets to "come" only once, after killing a rather pathetic group of social cast-offs. This makes *Taxi Driver* the hip equivalent of *Death Wish* and other vigilante epics. Like many of Scorsese's male characters, Bickle is made so unappealing that it's hard to see Scorsese's dire apocalyptic landscape as anything but the pathological fantasies of an unbalanced mind.

Scorsese's only woman-centered film is *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* (1974), which the director appears to have made because he was so frequently criticized at the time for not knowing how to direct women. But *Alice* was controlled as much by star Ellen Burstyn as by Scorsese. Burstyn remembers it as the director's most unhappy film experience. It isn't so much that Scorsese "couldn't direct women," she revealed in an interview at the time of the film's release, but rather that he rarely makes them more than aggravating obstacles to his male characters and repositories for their psychic miseries and sexual inadequacies.

After the fussy period piece *The Age of Innocence* (1993), Scorsese returned to familiar territory with 1995's *Casino*, which sensuously evokes another of the director's worlds of petty gangsters who fight their way to the top, and a gorgeous moll (Sharon Stone) who fights her way to the bottom. *Casino* shows the director in complete command of his material, with dazzling framing and editing and his trademark prowling camera movements. Whether such material is still worth "commanding" is increasingly open to question. ▼

The Castro Theatre's Tribute to Martin Scorsese runs February 9-29. Check the Castro calendar for titles and playdates.

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FILM

Antonia's Line: DOA

Village of the Dutch

by Erin Blackwell

As every feminist knows, it's a lot easier to deconstruct patriarchal archetypes than it is to come up with an icon of our own. Dutch writer/director Marleen Gorris — whose 1982 *Question of Silence* is a man-hater's cult classic — has wrought an epic about a monolithic matriarch named Antonia and three generations of female offspring called *Antonia's Line*. Too bad the film isn't as satisfying as Antonia's smile signals viewers her life has been.

Early warning signs abound. In the first shot, the dawn's early light falling across the old woman's bed just lies there, looking flat and artificial — the harbinger of slapdash treatment to come. The declarative sentences of the narrative voice-over commence. (They will stay with us till the bitter end, getting in the way of the action.) This is Antonia's last day on earth. She not only accepts her death; she wills it. That's the kind of role model she is.

Nobody likes to trash a matriarch. And Willeke van Ammelrooy as Antonia is a strapping big woman who's utterly believable, whether she's mending fences or stalking her granddaughter's rapist with a rifle. And Goddess knows, better Antonia than no one at all. But couldn't the film accord her some nuance? A doubt? Some vulnerability? A flaw? Some humanity?

The intimate opening shots of the octogenarian rising from her bed are followed by a portentous tracking shot down the hall. That's where the monster string section comes in, totally overwhelming the simple farm interior. No passing boom box ever provided more unwanted accompaniment, but the



Willeke van Ammelrooy and Els Dottermans in *Antonia's Line*.

threat thus established will be carried out: no gesture in this film is given its quotidian weight, all are syruped over with cinematic signifiers.

A close-up of Antonia's face framed by a window pane reveals the seams of her old-age makeup, as what looked like *A Day in the Life* of becomes *A Life in the Day of*. Quick as a wink, we're whisked back to the same village, post World War II. Gone is the gray hair, as a suitcase-wielding Antonia returns from *Who Knows Where* to bury her mother. With her is her own adult daughter — who looks nothing like her and with whom she will never establish a convincing onscreen rapport.

Maybe this is what in pre-feminist times was referred to as a woman's picture. Although Earth Mother Antonia is an unlikely Hollywood archetype, she has that same Earth Mover quality that drove the great camp classics (this

isn't one of them). Nothing much ever happens to her, but like a Dutch Mother Courage, Antonia is the force of nature that makes life possible. So, for an hour and three-quarters we sit and watch while her daughter has a daughter, and then she grows up and has a daughter, and then Antonia decides it's time to die, and that's the end of the film.

Farmyards, icons

In the meantime, many things happen. Some funny; some sad. Some great moments lie buried amidst the mulch, but no dramatic tension links them, and no rhythm sustains us as we sit and wait for Antonia to get as old as she was to start with. One farmyard incident follows another, usually involving pregnancy. (There are often several babies in the same shot — but then, this is farm life.) All told, that's 105 minutes' worth of 50

Continued on page 43

Angels and Insects

Lords of the Flies

by Gary Morris

The Victorian era — and anything that resembles it in the confused public mind — has always been a popular movie subject, but never more than in the last few years. Period melodramas centered on sexual repression have flooded theaters and the airwaves, with even major directors like Martin Scorsese succumbing to the trend (1993's *Age of Innocence*). This longing for Victoriana is little more than an attempt to recall an era of gentility and civilized discourse, clearly drawn class systems, predictable gender roles, and "reliable" sexual mores that are broken only by the occasional renegade.

Philip Haas' dark melodrama *Angels and Insects*, adapted from A.S. Bryant's novella *Morpho Eugenia*, is set in England in the 1860s, a time when religious and class values were increasingly called into question by the work of Charles Darwin. The film opens with a feverish native dance performed by a strikingly painted Amazonian tribe. This brief image, with its invitation to the thrills of sensuality, hints at the breaking of the bonds of repression — sexual and philosophical — that both threatens and enthralls the characters.

William Adamson (Mark Rylance) is a naturalist who returns to England after 10 years in the Amazon jungle. All his research is for naught, as his carefully recorded data is destroyed in a shipwreck. This doesn't prevent Reverend Harald Alabaster from hiring him to organize his vast insect collection. The Reverend's home is a hotbed of neurosis that proves disturbing to William — his daughter Eugenia (Patsy Kensit) is alternately cold and hysterical, and his son Edgar (Douglas Henshall), when he isn't busy raping the servants, makes William's life hell by humiliating him because of his common background.

William courts and marries Eugenia, and they



Kristin Scott Thomas and Mark Rylance in *Angels and Insects*.

quickly have five children, none of whom bears any resemblance to him. He retreats into studying the local ant colonies with Matty (Kristin Scott Thomas), a poor relation whose cool intelligence attracts William. They form an artistic alliance that offers him escape from his own "poor relation" status. The film ends with a revelation that won't surprise careful viewers.

Hawk moths and hard-ons

The suffocating status quo is everywhere in evidence, and the least threat to it brings on chaos. During a dinner conversation, William and Harald discuss Darwin, a name that causes Eugenia to spill

Continued on page 46

Terry Baum's *Two Fools*

Self-Portrait With Lover

by Erin Blackwell

Terry Baum has written a bright yet tender comedy about the perils of an international, interracial dyke relationship that is complicated by one woman being an obsessively self-referential note-taker. The quasi-autobiographical *Two Fools* (a reference to Baum's earlier *One Fool*) follows white San Franciscan Gracie and Costa Rican Luna from their meeting at the Clit Club in Amsterdam, through their vacation on the Isle of Lesbos, to their life together in San Francisco. Blanca Reynolds plays Gracie (a transparent stand-in for Baum) with unfailing charm and energy. It's no easy task performing the part of a playwright, when the playwright herself is directing and is as much a performer as she is writer. The undaunted Reynolds pulls it off with aplomb. She doesn't exactly impersonate Baum, but there is some physical resemblance or psychic similarity that makes it seem like you're seeing the original — not the woman who wrote the play, but the one on whom the story is based.

Reynolds isn't as zany as I imagine Baum would have been in the part; she's more reined-in; her transitions are smoother. More actor than performer, her authority is text-based rather than existential: she has to sublimate her persona in order to execute the demands of the script — and they are considerable.

Gracie is the locus of the play; her ubiquitous black-and-white marbleized composition books are a kind of time machine transporting us back and forth from the immediacy of the performance to those moments in the past when Gracie was taking the notes that would some day become the play we're watching.

Past, present and future co-exist in *Two Fools*. Even as Gracie is living something, she's imagining its being performed at some future date. And even as Blanca Reynolds performs for us in the here and now, she is only a temporal marker for the herstorical Gracie, who pre-dated and predicted her.

Technically, this melange of time frames translates into lots of asides to the audience, as Gracie pops in and out of time, through a

Catherine Castellanos and Blanca Reynolds in *Two Fools*.

series of short scenes which operate as flashbacks connected by narrative bridges.

The Other in the play is Luna: the beloved, the comparatively dark-skinned, the non-writer. Luna the lover and/or Luna the Muse never exist outside the context of Gracie's consciousness — of the two women's one-on-one relationship — of the scenes they improvised in what Luna thought was real life, but Gracie knew was only a rehearsal for an eventual performance.

Focusing on Gracie's need to transform experience into art, *Two Fools* doesn't let Luna take off and just be herself. We only get glimpses of what it is about her that Gracie so adores. Nonetheless, Luna the woman does get to complain about her mutation into Luna the icon. Bringing considerable warmth to the part of Gracie's subjective prisoner, Catherine Castellanos does her best to rattle the bars of her particular romantic cage.

Terrific humanity

Beyond the specifics of race, nationality and artistic compulsion, viewers will recognize in *Two Fools* many of the problems endemic to lesbian relationships, nay, perhaps to all love relationships. If Baum doesn't go to the lower depths of emotional intimacy, neither does she pretty-up the rough edges of what she observes closer to the surface.

The problem of Self and Other — the need to collect and control

Antonia

Continued from page 42

years in a small Dutch village painted in the broadest strokes imaginable. Forget Vermeer — this is Frans Hals.

There's the Village Idiot and the Retarded Rape Victim, both of whom find love and inclusion under Antonia's roof. The above-mentioned daughter becomes a Single Lesbian Mom and hooks up with the local School Marm. (There are no gay guys.) There's the Twisted Rapist, who works off the world's evil male karma by being successively pitchforked, beaten, and finally drowned in a trough by his own brother. (These sporadic forays into anti-male violence constitute the film's high points.) There's the Avuncular Intellectual who schools Antonia's brood in the nihilistic arts before hanging himself. There's even someone called the Mad Madonna, who is only ever shown howling at the moon out of her window — a strangely dismissive treatment for a neo-feminist icon.

A director with an eye for detail might have leavened these sto-

rybook figures with some life-giving bacteria. Unfortunately, Gorris directed her own script. The same programmatic approach that made the salesman's murder by women shoppers in *A Question of Silence* such a shocker here reduces the village people to generalized stand-ins for what could have been individualized characters. But then, you can't make epic poetry out of a party line.

The Nederland's official Oscar entry for 1996, *Antonia's Line* is infinitely more bearable than the German contender, *Brother of Sleep*, a demonic depiction of life in a 19th-century Bavarian village. What is it with the Europeans these days? Is this the filmic fall-out from the rise of the Right — backward-looking sagas about the life of the tribe? If I have to get nostalgic about a country I didn't grow up in, I'll take Jeanne Moreau's transcendently lyric *L'Adolescente* (1979), with Simone Signoret as the matriarch. At least it was beautiful. ▼

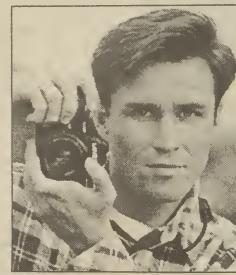
Antonia's Line opens February 14 at the Clay Theatre in San Francisco and the Act in Berkeley.

of thin air, etc.) Stylistic conventions need to be established so that, for example, when the onstage phone rings, we in the audience (and not just the actors) hear it.

Such inconsistencies may well work themselves out during the four-week run. As it is, playwright Baum has delivered an unusually sophisticated treatment of a lesbian relationship, which director Baum has crafted into a well-paced, entertaining evening. Reynolds and Castellanos are en-

gaging and believable as the star-crossed, cross-cultural lovers. I can't wait to see the movie. ▼

Two Fools continues at the **Noh Space** at **Theatre Artaud**, 2840 Mariposa St., through February 24. Thursday is "Pay what you can" night. February 14 is a benefit for **Lesbian and Gay Immigration Rights Task Force**. Call 621-7978 for tickets and information.



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Anna Deavere Smith's Los Angeles Vivisection A Nation Revealed

by Robert Julian

In recent years, the standing ovation has become meaningless. It is guaranteed to any aging Thespian with name recognition willing to tour the provinces with the 27th pro-

duction of some hoary old Broadway chestnut. But playwright/actress Anna Deavere Smith is little known outside theatrical circles. When the audience rises at the end of *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*, the customary ovation seems a sincere but grossly inadequate reflection of this artist's extraordinary accomplishment.

Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992 won an Obie award and two Tony nominations (Best Play and Best Actress). Berkeley Rep now brings the work to San Francisco's Marines Memorial Theatre under the direction of Sharon Ott. Alone on stage, Anna Deavere Smith portrays 40 individuals of various races, ages, and genders, each in a completely convincing manner. Smith's credibility factor is greatly enhanced by the fact that all her material comes from verbatim interviews she conducted with the real-life individuals that populate her play. The structural centerpiece of the work is the Los Angeles riot that followed the verdict in the Rodney King beating trial of 1992. All of Smith's characters reflect on the events surrounding this social upheaval, and their observations reflect the full range of human emotional and intellectual responses.

As a playwright, Smith has succeeded in bringing an incredible balance to this project. The play is subtitled "On the Road: A Search for American Character" and, to her credit, Smith has wisely avoided the sort of overt editorial commentary that might dilute or distort the insights and personal

prejudices of her subjects. There are no good guys and no bad guys, just human beings reporting their own rage, grief, loss, and guilt.

At the opening of Act II, Cornel West, an African-American scholar, offers a brilliant soliloquy that Smith entitles "Chekhov/Coltrane." This character, perhaps more than any of Smith's characters, best epitomizes the kind of empathetic understanding and intellectual detachment that gives him keen critical insight. West reasons by analogy, drawing parallels between the works of artists past and present to crystallize universal themes and images that typify race relations in our country.

In direct contrast, Smith offers other characters whose personal gain or loss overwhelms their ability to detach from their circumstances. Most notably, and most enjoyably, Smith regales us with the over-the-top words of Elaine Young, a Beverly Hills real estate agent, and Katie Miller, the African-American bookkeeper for a Pep Boys store in South Central. Young, with her rhinestone glasses and cosmetic surgery, regales us with the perspective of the riots from the point of view of those who took refuge in the Beverly Hills Hotel, while Miller serves as a homegirl cheerleader for those who looted and robbed.

An even more detached point of view is evident from the words of Reginald Denny (the white truck driver who was dragged from his truck and beaten) and Shelby Coffey, an editor at the *Los*



Photo: Ken Friedman

Anna Deavere Smith in *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*.

Angeles Times. Denny, an innocent soul, dedicates himself to the concept of interracial healing, and Coffey brings a unique, ironic sense of humor to the subject by relating a telephone call he re-

ceives from the newspaper's stringer in Beirut, who wants to know if everyone is okay.

Los Angeles policemen, Korean grocers, Hispanic neighbors, Darryl Gates, and even soprano Jessye Norman all take their turn trying to make sense of seemingly irrational behavior. But some of the most telling dialogue comes from two jurors — one from the criminal trial that acquitted the Los Angeles police officers who beat Rodney King, and another from the civil trial that convicted two of the same officers. These two individuals, responsible for the delivery of justice, amaze and entertain with their colorful illustrations of human frailty in the face of tremendous social responsibility.

Smith's great asset as an actress is her ability to glide from one character to the next in a seamless manner, replicating individual speech patterns and personal posturing without turning her characterizations into parodies. And her strength as a playwright is evidenced by her ability to collect these words and string them together in a coherent and theatrically valid presentation. Aided by only a few costume accessories and a variety of chairs and tables, she takes the audience into living rooms, offices, and bedrooms with authority and ease.

Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992 is not just about the Los Angeles riots. It is a transcendent work that will provoke both thought and discomfort for any American audience. The theater's "fourth wall" is the saving grace that allows us to experience the intensity of this work without being blown out of the theater. Smith has created a riveting work that captures our nation on the edge of a precipice. Will we pass through the twilight and back into the light, or will we plunge ourselves into darkness? This is a question the playwright leaves unanswered — and one the audience will be forced to ponder long after the curtain falls. ▼

Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992 is at the Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter Street through March 17. Call (510) 845-4700 for information and tickets.

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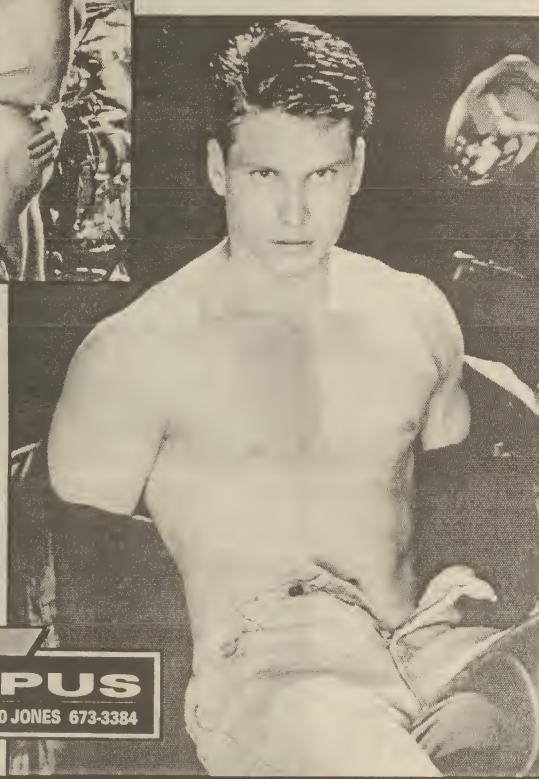
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CABARET

First West Coast Cabaret Convention Is Big Success

Cabaret: Not Just for the Overwrought and Over-the-Hill

by Chad Jones

Cabaret is a label that encompasses everything from show tunes to pop to jazz to blues, and just as the label encompasses so many divergent styles, the songs that waft through smoky nightclubs or glint off hard-to-find CDs encompass the richness of the human experience in all its humor and romance.

Those who think they know what alternative music is should think again. Rock band R.E.M. used to be called alternative, but now they fill stadiums, and the label "alternative rock" has become synonymous with mainstream success. No, the real alternative in music involves what has come to be known as "The Great American Songbook," that is, classic tunes penned by the likes of Cole Porter, Rodgers and Hart, Noel Coward, Irving Berlin and Harold Arlen. These great works are kept alive primarily through the voices of cabaret, this country's truly alternative musical form.

Though the rewards of cabaret are many, it is an art form hard to come by in the mid-'90s, especially in San Francisco. But Donald Smith and the Mabel Mercer Foundation, of which Smith is executive director, changed all that last week with their first-ever West Coast Cabaret Convention.

Throughout the year, cabaret is like a charity that cries out for the support of its patrons and has a hard time reaching even its most enthusiastic denizens. But judging from the buoyant success of the Cabaret Convention — sold-out houses, manic fans, lionized artists — this fragile, endangered art form seems far from breathing its last breath.

A revered institution for the past five years, New York's Annual Cabaret Convention has played host to the finest the medium has to offer, and during that time, Smith, the Convention's creator, has wanted to start a West Coast version of the event — but in San Francisco, not Los Angeles (always a wise choice). The ovations, the brisk CD sales and the renewed interest in hearing well-performed songs sung in intimate, captivating ways proved that Smith's dedication to his vision paid off. For nine days, venues in Marin and SF — from the Plush Room in the York Hotel to the Larkspur Theatre Cafe — were filled with devotees starved for cabaret, and for nine days, we consumed it all with rapturous delight.

San Francisco cabaret stars went head-to-head with the best New York has to offer and emerged victorious. At the Convention's opening night gala showcase, brassy Sharon McNight and *Beach Blanket Babylon* diva Val Diamond shared the stage with cabaret legends Julie Wilson and Margaret Whiting and held their own. Everyone who is anyone in cabaret appeared either during the week or at the opening and closing night bookend galas. Michael Feinstein, Amanda McBroom and Andrea Marcovicci joined forces with local talents Meg Mackay, Clark Sterling, Joseph Lustig and Samantha Samuels to create a full range of cabaret's boldest and best acts.

New talent

The Convention also showcased up-and-coming talent. Jeff



Jeff Harnar impressed with his *The 1959 Broadway Songbook*.

Harnar, already a New York success, wowed audiences with his show *The 1959 Broadway Songbook*, in which he performs numbers from every musical that ran on Broadway during that impressive season: 14 new musicals, including *The Sound of Music* and *Gypsy*, opened that year, joining the seven holdovers from previous seasons, which included *My Fair Lady*, *West Side Story* and *The Music Man*. Harnar and musical director Alex Rybeck have put together a solid show expertly executed and augmented by the duo's winning good nature and solid musicianship.

Other New Yorkers who made impressive San Francisco debuts included: the captivating Phillip Officer, whose interpretation of Oscar Hammerstein's lyrics breathed new life into classic material; David Staller, whose handsome polish ignited his presentation of Coward and Porter tunes; and Eric Comstock, whose boy-next-door charm and showy piano playing endeared him to his audience.

Paula West, a local waitress who occasionally plays gigs at the Ritz-Carlton, stole the spotlight from the stars in her first big-time exposure. With a gorgeous voice and a distinct style, this singer could go far. Her versions of "You Came A Long Way From St. Louis" and "You'll See" established her as a stand-out among San Francisco singers.

Making her San Francisco debut, New York cabaret stalwart Barbara Carroll proved why she's been such a success for the last 20 years tickling the ivories and crooning at Bemelman's bar in the Carlyle Hotel. In a word, Carroll is *class*. With her slicked-back red hair and easy, confident way with a song, Carroll epitomizes everything that makes cabaret great: she loves the music and sells it without appearing to. In her extended run at the Inn at the Opera, Carroll packed 'em in and made her mark. May she come back soon and often.

New Yorker Ann Hampton Callaway emerged as a powerhouse talent. Accompanying herself on the piano, Callaway growled her way through her own

"Love Go." Convention buzz had it that Barbra Streisand will record a Callaway original on her next album, which may be the push the talented Callaway needs to find the big audience she so richly deserves.

Aside from the great music we heard night after night, a true delight of the convention was the presence of stars. Because the cabaret world is so New York-driven, we in the hinterlands can usually only experience it vicariously. But to be in the presence of these wonderful singers and musicians was to experience first-hand just how engaging the craft of cabaret in all its guises can be. Sure, there are performers who are not as honest as others in their performance, and, yes, there are pompous, overwrought performers who epitomize the stereotype of the ridiculous cabaret performer, but the Convention's reminder of cabaret's powers and pleasures was heady. The feeling may not last for long, but there is hope that the adoring audiences who embraced the West Coast Cabaret Convention will take their enthusiasm into our local cabarets when the Convention is a distant memory. The challenge now is to keep the Convention's vitality alive and to help the uninitiated to embrace one of our country's great art forms. ▶

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MUSIC



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Enrique: "There is something about having this real rockin' live show, all dressed up."

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Enrique

Continued from cover

recording sessions at Komotion, a local musician's collective. Knowing that their live show emphasized costumes and choreography over music, the band worked hard to get their sound just right. "I always knew what we could produce in the studio, but people couldn't see that in our show," says Enrique. "It's a wild show. We're running around and we don't always sound as good as we can."

On *Cut The Cheese*, however, Enrique has never sounded better. Christian Matthews' slick production values add a glossy touch, showcasing the band's clever songwriting. Part of what makes the album so listenable is the variety of different musical styles the band tackles. Hard rock riffs drive "CAlgong (Take Me Away)" while "Pocket Radio" is more new wave. "Supermarket Samba" is exactly what its title implies. "Mechanical Bull" is done up as a techno track, and "Weakness (The Apache Dream)" sounds like a ballad from a Broadway show.

While the lyrical content isn't nearly as varied as the music, it does reflect Enrique's signature twisted pop-culture sensibility. Songs such as "Orange Juice" and "Hairpie" might seem silly on the surface, but underneath lies a sinister sexual subtext. "All of our songs are either about sex or food," says Enrique. "Everything has a touch of dirty sexual humor. We're all just a little too perverted to be just funny. It's more surreal than wacky."

Resplendently tacky

Call it what you will, but what makes Enrique *seem* funny is the band's glorified view of contemporary Americana, in all its trashy splendor. While that's certainly apparent in the songs, it becomes screamingly obvious when sitting in the living room of their Mission District flat. *Charlie's Angels* memorabilia is everywhere, along with the largest *My Pretty Pony* collection I've ever seen. "There was a time when we liked all this stuff," Enrique says, motioning around the room. "And there was a fascination with television. Somewhere along the line — and I don't know how conscious it was — we decided to more fully live the life. Often when you think things are tacky, you realize later on that you actually like them!"

Enrique's attraction to white-trash culture goes way back. "We grew up in the same trailer court in Lodi, California," explains Enrique. "We're half-brothers. Same dad, different mom. Our dad was a go-go instructor. And that's what inspired us to move to San Francisco."

Their goal was to follow in their deceased father's footsteps, but things didn't really start moving for the two singers until they put together a band and hooked up with Fish. "We were in Reno," says Enrique, "At one of Charo's shows, and Fish was there. She was a dancing animal impersonator." Fish saw an opportunity to escape and followed the boys to San Francisco.

As it turns out, though, you can take the girl out of Reno, but you can't take Reno out of the girl. Fish often appears onstage as a

Vegas-style showgirl; in fact, the entire band shares Fish's enthusiasm for glitzy fashion, which, for some, might seem like an effort to divert attention away from the music. Fish disagrees. "It's part of what makes us different from other bands," she says. "Sometimes people think that the visuals are less important than the music, that the music is the only 'real' thing. We, however, take a more holistic approach to the art form — where the visuals and theatrics are equally important. It's more like a multimedia show, where the art can come from any aspect of the performance."

Enrique concurs. "I mean, how much of it is entertainment, and how much is art? I do think that there is something about having this real rockin' live show, all dressed up. There isn't a lot of that anymore. That's why Kiss was so big. It takes rock 'n' roll to a different level. It becomes much more of a fantasy."

Which is, of course, what Enrique is all about. "We're sort of an actualized fantasy. We're not really famous right now, but we have these big shows and we have all these things with the name 'Enrique' on them, and it's like, we're already stars! We're just actualizing how our lives should be." ▼

Enrique's record release party for *Cut The Cheese* is on Saturday, February 10 at the Transmission Theatre, 314 11th Street. Elvis Her-selvis, Arturo Galster as Patsy Cline, Mingo 2000, and Fantasy also perform. Doors open at 9 p.m.; tickets are \$6.

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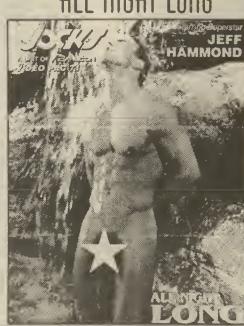
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Angels

Continued from page 42

her drink and run from the table. Eugenia is a lightning rod for the family's fear of a world based on reasoned principles of nature rather than a divinity that endorses the existence of the leisure class to which the Alabasters belong. In a scene of startling beauty, William presents Eugenia with a box of live butterflies in an indoor garden; their fluttering enchant her and she likens them to "colored air." It's typical of the film that this scene has a distressing mirror image. The two meet again for a romantic tryst, and William brings her another present: a group of male hawk moths. In the poetic style that makes the film's script resonate, he says, "Why don't you sit down and see if the moths mistake you for the moon, as the butterflies fly toward the flowers and sky?" Instead, the moths attach themselves to her, sending her into hysterics.

Angels and Insects opens at The Bridge, Palo Alto Square and elsewhere February 9.

buttresses its pitiless view of a deterministic universe adrift in the chaos of nature. William is the most sympathetic character because he is in tune with this view and accepts what his life has to offer. Insect imagery is used throughout to counterpoint the other characters. Matty puts fruit on a plate to see how long it takes for ants to overrun it. Like William, she accepts and explores nature. Conversely, there's bloated, lazy Eugenia, who reacts with horror when ants overrun a bowl of strawberries and cream resting on her chest. The sickening indulgences of the rich and repressed are neatly evoked throughout.

In addition to the superb, subtle acting, the film also respects its audience by treating us as adults. In the most surprising, if not shocking, scene, William catches Edgar *in flagrante*, and the film lingers on the image of William's callous brother-in-law's exposed hard-on as he hurriedly puts on his pants. ▼

Angels and Insects opens at The Bridge, Palo Alto Square and elsewhere February 9.

'In the Life' Celebrates Black History Month

by Hakeem Oseni II

In the Life, the country's only television newsmagazine devoted to gay and lesbian issues, acknowledges February's Black History Month with a report from Atlanta on the growing gay presence in that city, a report on gays and lesbians in South Africa, and a look at black gay and lesbian literature and theatre. Other segments reflect the show's characteristically diverse range of themes and topics.

Atlanta, birth of the Civil Rights movement, hosts thousands for that city's annual Martin Luther King Birthday march, in which the city's homosexual community is becoming increasingly visible. Host Katherine Linton compares the African American Civil Rights movement to today's lesbian and gay civil rights struggle.

"If they want to participate in the dream, they have a right to do it," march organizer James Orange said. "When we come here during King week, we come as brothers and sisters."

"Like Martin, I don't think that



Marchers at the Million Man March in Washington D.C. last year.

you can stand for freedom for one group of people and deny it to others," said Coretta King, endorsing legislation for gay rights.

While in Atlanta, *In the Life* visits Spellman College, a historically black female college, and speaks to Wendi O'Neal, founder of the school's first Lesbian and

Continued on page 54

Dale Peck

Continued from cover

which Peck views this marriage. The alternating stories of "young Hank and Bea" and "old Hank and Bea" are folded together like an accordion. Then both are unfolded against the real time of Spring 1990 to Fall 1991. Thus the specter of the Gulf War flickers ominously in the interstices of both chronicles, as if for no reason other than to confuse the reader. The young Bea in love watches the same cruise missiles on TV that old embittered Bea reads about in the newspaper. This conceit is merely distracting.

A similar complaint could be made about the gratuitous symbolism of a mysterious species of red deer that are spotted throughout the novel. Why?

My main reservation about Peck's fine writing is its hallmark bleakness. Readers of *Martin and John* will recall, for instance, the starkly-rendered scene in which Martin literally shits his life down the bathtub drain. "Purple clots slipped out of him now, small turds rolled in the current." Peck seems to relish the effort of steeping his readers in unalleviated misery, even if the effect risks drowning them in laughter.

Consider the unintentionally comic crescendo of this passage in which Hank remembers the death of his mother. Mind you, his mother shows up nowhere else in the novel, and only appears here to provide us with the following indelible image: "... he saw suddenly, his mother's face, and even when he turned back to the pool of water he still saw her, remembered her, remembered her death. His mother had taken an overdose of painkillers. She died, not from the pills, but from the vomit she'd choked on but hadn't been able, or hadn't tried, to spit out. The name on the pill bottles had been his, and she had died clutching them in her hands. She had died with her face covered in a cauldron of vomit, and she had gone into the next world blind."

There is a kind of absurdist denouement to this progression: not only did Hank's mother die, but she died of an overdose. *What could be worse?* Well, it wasn't the overdose that killed her but the vomit induced by it. *Wait, it's*

Gay Alliance. "Spellman is struggling with diversity, like many other colleges in the country," O'Neal said, explaining the trials she endured creating the Alliance. *In the Life* then expands on the topic of education by discussing the dire predicament of the na-

Continued on page 54

worse! She couldn't — or wouldn't — even vomit efficiently. Plus the pills that did the job had her son's name inscribed on the bottle, which, of course, "she died clutching." And she didn't just choke to death: she died choking and blind!

And then without a beat we're back to Hank and Bea standing by the waterfall. Still, you've got to love that cauldron of vomit.

Much has been made by book reviewers of Peck's "emotional wisdom" as he dissects the marriage of Hank and Bea. I leave this for others to investigate. I confess that it's hard for me to see the point. The autopsy of their union is skillfully achieved, but to what end? Maybe I'm just bored by the multiple misfortunes of heterosexual love. But not nearly as bored as I am by the fictive tragedy of homosexual love, with its inevitable admixture of brute sex and AIDS. Credit Peck with this: that after punishing us with *Martin and John*, he didn't do it all over again.

More fascinating is the plight of the author himself. The merciless memoir at the heart of *The Law of Enclosures* may not be emotionally wise but it's more engaging in its immediacy. Here the novelist is utterly naked, his family fictions pornographic. "In pulling my father out of himself I have pulled him out of me, and I look at the mess I've made in the same way I would look at my vomit: here is something which, if I had stayed down, would have been digested, would have, eventually, turned into me."

At its best, Peck's "Lamentations" remind me of the postscript to Georges Bataille's *Story of the Eye*, in which Bataille brutally severs himself from his own father. The difference is that, for Peck, this severance is also an act of salvation. He concludes his lamentation in the diction of an exiled son: "Because you never trusted language, never once relied on words, they were all you left for me, and if you call me then, trembling and full of fear, I will come. Your gifts are fists and curses, your punishments kisses and caresses, and I have grown bitter with your love and sweet with your hatred. You are my god, my father, but I am your bible: I turn your flesh into words.... With

my words I will protect you. I will save you as you have saved me. I save you forever, and for everyone, and for eternity. Dear father, I am saving you now."

Rarely has a writer's hubris been so moving. ▼

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BAR TALK

Total Anal Bottom Bear

GWM, 44, 5'11", 200+, balding, short brown hair, trim beard, hairy, beautiful white ass and experienced hole, HIV+. Professional and financially secure. Looking for anal master into long, plowing, ass play. ☎ 8416.

Daytime JO - Oral Buddy

Discreet, nice looking, 40's, 6', 170+, HIV+, fun, sincere, easy going & honest w/ big balls & hung seeks daytime buddy for sexual release w/ warmth & affection. ☎ 8417.

Handsome Blond Top Seeks Bottoms

For early morning fun. I am well built, hung, 8 1/2, erm enjoys a men who likes to please. If you're a friendly, playful guy I am waiting for you to call! ☎ 8418.

Hardbody Umphphi

My fantasy: Arm wrestling, flexing, rough housing, strongest guy gets to be top fuck in bed. Your fantasy? My ideal fuck mate is thin, hard bodied, muscular, slightly anorexic. ☎ 8419.

Civic Center Oral Expert

Handsome, GWM, seeks Latino/White men, 40-45yo, w/ 8+, who enjoys receiving sensuous deep throat. Action. Must be trim/clean; g a y / s t r e i g h t / b i / single/married/welcome. No reciprocation. ☎ 8420.

What's Luv Got To Do With It?

2 good looking bottom guys 33-37yo are seeking a gilding top man or men, dominant & hung for hot sex. ☎ 8421.

Rough Sex & Soft Kisses

36, tall, lean, muscular & hairy, Bl/bl, stach & goatee. Big uncut German meat. Passionately versatile. Be well built, well hung, well adjusted, & sweaty. Pluses = Latinos, uncut, dark hair, hairy, blue collar, kg attitude. ☎ 8422.

8" Chocolate Love Rod

Needs a real man to pump. I enjoy men who are tall, husky, masculine, available and sincere. Please have a moustache but no other facial hair. Sessions with me are brief but intense. I'm 42, 5'10", 180+. Thanks. ☎ 8423.

S.J. Nice Ass/Small Dick

Masc. GWM, 29, HIV+, 5'8", 160+, bl/bl, smooth bottom. ISO dominant/verbal. W, L, or Ital. top, 18-35 to show me the ropes. Interested in wrestling, getting spanked, coddled + B/D. Thin/younger a plus. No fats or females. ☎ 8424.

Double Top

Dominant guy 18-30 wanted to assist 26yo guy to dominating older man. ☎ 8425.

Curious & Playful

Vry gilding hot & adventurous 32yo, 6', 185+, muscular, dark hair/eyes. In search of similar gilding hunk (22-35, swimmer's build included) Open to steamy sex, explorative encounters (bondage, butt play) dating and relationships. ☎ 8426.

Free Quality Massage

Strong, sensual, nurturing, full-body, Swedish, massage for nicely built young men. I'm 6'2", 194+, 43, gilding, masculine, masculine, sincere. Experienced. Table. Because I enjoy it! ☎ 8425.

Top Fuck Animal Wanted

I'm a 31yo, GWM, bottom w/ br/hazel, 54, 160+, HIV+, hungry for long hot cock. I'm looking for curious straight/bi or gay WM/LM/Indian/French or mixed. If your 18-29yo slim trim athletic college type with 9 1/2 or more then use. Jocks, briefs, etc. plus. ☎ 8426.

Virile, Virile, Virile

Excellently formed, classically shaped penis is owned by this mature imaginative Englishman who has English vices. Clean, obedient, trim, person only, please. ☎ 8424.

Big Men

If you are stocky, hefty, or pleasantly fat, then I'm interested in possibly meeting you. GBM, 5'8", 235+, 42yo is looking for sexy big men for sensual encounters. ☎ 8422.

Not Vanilla Sex

Gilding, smart, professional GAM top, 32, 5'7", 145, very smooth, in shape, safe, sane looking for playmates into non-vanilla sex: BD, SM, WS, FF, spanking, TT, CBT or ??? Limits respected. ☎ 8421.

Cops, Military, Blue Collar

Sit back and receive thorough appreciation. Two butch buddies, hot, early 40's, ex-military, seeks other real cops, servicemen and blue collar men who enjoy long cocksucking sessions. We're NS, HIV+. so are you. Married, bi-ox. Confidentiality assured.

© 8640.

Layback

Let my fingers, lips, tongue end hot mouth make love to you. Prefer men under 45 who are drug and disease free. No reciprocation necessary. Morning, afternoon, eves. Call now and try new experience. I if you can handle it. ☎ 8639.

FFB & CS Addict

If your bliss is fisting a very hot butt and getting deep throat head, all lone long perry, we should meet. Excellent & eager bottom in shape, 50's, 5'11", 165+. ☎ 8638.

Oak Buddy

GWM, 42, 6'1", 200+, seeks JO and BJ while watching video. Height/weight proportion & HIV+ with big cock end hot. Age over 50. ☎ 8637.

Nude and Free

firm, sensual message, most Swedish for very fit gilding, GWM, 24-34 with lean builds. I'm attractive GAM, 35, 5'9", 150+, gym-toned, beautiful body. Experienced. Table, please call me ☎ 8636.

Warm Glowing Buns

Stimulate nerve endings you never knew you had with an ass massage & spanking. Me: Attrac, GWM, 6'5", 46, 250+, football players build. You: Attrac, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth to

equipment. Play ball now. ☎ 8628.

Are You A Black Or Latino PWA?

GWM, 5'10", 185+, 50, trim beard, Italian, PWA, looking for friendship and sexual fun with a black or latino PWA. Likes movies, dining out, music & good feeling. Ebeay A+. ☎ 8627.

Spanking

Requires for big, bad, boy. If you are an experienced, top, in the art of spanking, this guy needs to be placed over your knee and spanked till that ass turns pretty pink. ☎ 8626.

Master For Tough Correction Sessions

Needed to reprogram middle-eastern looking guy with goatee end soft brown eyes, 37yo, ISO, 5'8", and affectionate. You: Strong, imaginative, HIV+ to mid 40's who enjoys taking charge. ☎ 8625.

Cream In Pants

You: Thin muscular guy, 18-35, defined veiny arms and/or washboard abdomen, love anal sex, slightly anorexic prefer getting fucked, hard body, other sex fantasies possible. Me: Fit, muscle top, bent on domination, good times, fucker. ☎ 8545.

Hot Muscle Men Wanted

GWM, Muscular and well hung looking for WM muscle men to worship. Big powerful muscles a must. Only safe

provided. ☎ 8533.

Wanted HIV+ Asian Top

Me: Attractive, 50, br/br, 5'11", 170+, HIV+, healthy, passionate, attractive, bottom, I can take all you can give

Attrac. Dominant Top

Nice hairy chest, 14'ars, 5'10", 175+, aggressive top. Nees horny bottom under 32yo. Be submissive, verbal, smooth A+. You: sex end

ready to service. ☎ 8533.

Boot Slave

Seeks Sadistic Master

Cute, 29yo, boot slave seeks bliss at

Slim Asian 30yo, 5'5", 105+, seeks other Asians who are fun cut for wild times. Prefer slim guys or small guys. ☎ 8537.

Looking For Mr. Sugar

Discreet, loyal, mature, educated, HIV-Spanish lking. 23yo student seeking generous prof male. I'm 5'8", 132+, in shape very cute and sexy. Hoping to spend weekends and some wk. nites w/ attrac. W, A. His b/wm 21-55. ☎ 8536.

Ass Lickin'

I'm a 47yo, GWM, hairy, top who wants to try being on the bottom if you're a gilding muscular healthy top 28-35, I'd like to eat your ass. Heve min. chair. Train me slow, Sir. ☎ 8535.

Nasty, Rough, Tit, Twisting Buddy Needed

Me: 155+, 5'yo GWM, only pls. No cologne, no phone sex, daytime sessions preferred, big nipples & tit toys provided. ☎ 8534.

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ready to service. ☎ 8533.

Attrac. Dominant Top

Nice hairy chest, 14'ars, 5'

THIS WEEK



▲ Sunday

Internationally acclaimed violinist Cho-Liang Lin soles with the California Symphony at the Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek.

Photo: J. Henry Fair

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 9

Age and Community:

"Younger men and older men talk to each other" panel sponsored by INVENTION. 7:30pm, MCC, 150 Eureka. 522-1785.

Askew

New music trio Kathryn Lyle, Karen Hirst, Lauren Hewitt perform new material. 8:30pm, Jon Sims Center for the Perf. Arts, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

The Bald Soprano

Ionesco's "anti-play" opens EXIT Theatre's Absurdist Series. Fri. & Sat. thru 2/10. 12:30pm, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

Four Dogs and a Bone

John Patrick Shanley's four-character comedy: two actresses, a screenwriter and a producer scheme for a movie. Thurs.-Sun. thru 3/2, call for times. \$18. Tonight at 8pm. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

Gay Comedy Night

Breck VandenBerghe, Maureen Brownsey, Karen Ripley. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Girl Talk

Lesbian video shorts at Diva.

a niteclub for women, incl. Joystick Blues, Fingereid, Stafford's Story. \$6. 7:30pm. Transmission, 314 11th St. 487-6305.

Jewelle Gomez

Reading from *Oral Tradition: Selected Poems Old & New*. free. 7:30pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa Ave., Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

Hay Fever

Noel Coward's comedy about an eccentric theatrical family opens. Thurs.-Sun. thru 3/10. \$15. Tonight at 8pm. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 346-3107.

The Lady Upstairs

Sara Fader's play, a love story about atomic fission. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/10, call for times. \$12-18. 8pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Love, Sex, Rage

Queer women performers, incl. Samiya Bashir, Miriam Kronberg, others, dish it out. Fri. & Sat. \$8-12. 8pm. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. #216C. 863-2989.

Mona Rogers In Person

Helen Shumaker's solo performance in Philip Dimitri Galas' play, extended thru 2/25. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm. \$16-18. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Carl Mydans:

"Visions of Life," retrospective exhibition of renowned *Life* magazine photojournalist, thru 3/4. Circle Gallery, 140 Maiden Lane. 989-2100.

Taking Shape

Showcase of new theatre works by women. Afi-Tiombé Kambo's *An Extra Jar of Molasses*, Bayla Travis' *Having Your Cake*, more, thru 2/11. Tonight at 8pm. \$10.

Brava Studio Theatre, 2180 Bryant. 487-5401.

Trikone

The magazine for South Asian lesbians and gays celebrates its 10th anniversary. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Trisha Brown Company

Choreography by Trisha Brown, music by Bach and Rauschenberg. Thurs. Sun. 12-20. Tonight at 8pm. Center for the Arts Theater, Yerba Buena Gardens. 392-4400.

Saturday 10

John James Audubon

Exhibit of "The Watercolors for The Birds of America" thru 4/14. \$6. de Young Mem'l Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Cinch Saloon

7th anniversary party. Sat.: The Motivators, 9pm; Sun.: all-girl band Wild Oats, 6pm. 1723 Polk. 776-4162.

Dump Jesse Helms

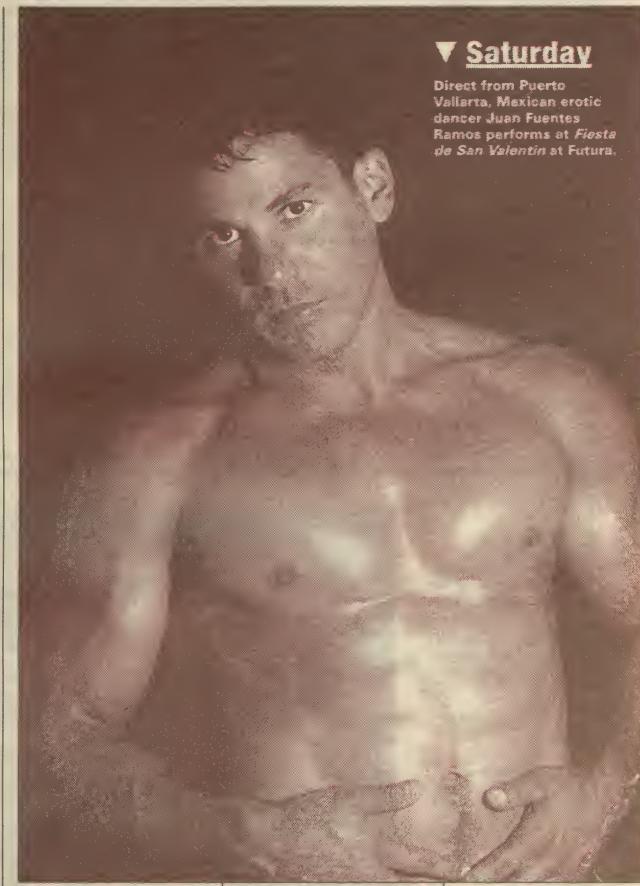
"Friends of North Carolina," gay/les/bi/trans fundraisers to defeat Helms, meet every Sat., 2pm, Rm 106, MCC, Eureka at 18th. 863-9792.

E. Bay Lavender Seniors

Gays & lesbians over 55, potluck and social, 1pm. 1395 Bancroft, San Leandro. (510) 247-2406.

Enrique

Record release party for new album *Cut the Cheese*. Also: Patsy Cline, Elvis Presley, Fantasy, MINGO 2000. \$6. 9pm. Transmission Theatre, 314 11th St. 861-6906.



Fiesta de San Valentín

Latino Valentine's party, special guest Juan Fuentes Ramos, Mexico's hottest erotic dancer. \$10. 10pm-3am. Futura, 174 King. 665-6715.

Forgiving Waters

Corey Fischer tells story of his mother's death, father's disorientation due to Alzheimer's. Fri.-Sun. thru 3/3. \$15. Tonight at 8pm. A Traveling Jewish Theatre, Project Artaud, 2800 Mariposa. 621-7978.

The Girls Spot

SF's favorite women's dance party. DJs Downtown Donna, Matthew Consola, Sergio. \$7 after 10pm. 8pm-4am. V/st, 278 11th St. 621-1530.

Leather Elegance

Alameda Co. Leather Corps benefit for Oakland Children's Hospital, dress code: tuxedos, leather, uniforms. \$10. Driftwood Lounge, 2217 Mission Blvd., Hayward. 9pm. (510) 581-2050.

Lyspina Must Be Destroyed!

"The First Farewell" Like a glamorous phoenix, Lyspina rises from the ashes of her Minnelli nightmare. Thurs. 3/3. \$18-20. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Out Calls Only

Erotic comedy based on true stories of SF call boys, directed by Steve Omlid. Thurs.-Sun. thru 2/11. \$12-15. Tonight at 8:30pm. Studio at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Sissy Spaceout Drag Show

MCs Prince Albert and Alexis Miranda, benefits Project Open Hand. 10pm. Wooden Horse, 622 Polk. 771-8063.

Town Hall Mtg.

Queer Cultural Center discusses plans, seeks community input. 1pm. Theatre

▼ Saturday

Direct from Puerto Vallarta, Mexican erotic dancer Juan Fuentes Ramos performs at *Fiesta de San Valentín* at Futura.

Finger... video s... Girl Ta... club fo... Changes... West Coast... Marivaux's... romantic co... and direct... Wadsworth... 2/23, call f... 3250, Berk... Theatre, 20... Berkeley, (5...

Dark Li... New photo... Gatewood... \$3. 9pm. Caf... 2170 Market. 861-7933.

Love No... SF Winds... seated ver... Lesbian/Ga... give a free... Bethany Ur... 1268 Sand...

Variatio... Valentine's

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Breck VandenBerghe, aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

It's Rodney

With Mini Pearl Necklace. \$3. 9pm. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market. 861-5016.

J. B. Higgins

Black & white photographs of the male nude. Thurs Feb. SF Eagle, 398 12th St.

John LeFlore

Paintings and drawings, thru 2/16. Artwork Gallery, 1837 Divisadero. 673-3080.

Martina Navratilova
Signing her new book *Breaking Point*. 6pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Nude Coffee

All-female comedy group performs sketches, songs and parodies. Mondays thru 3/4. \$6. Punchline, 444 Battery. 341-4337.

Report from Washington

UCSF AIDS specialists report from the 3rd Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, free. 6pm. Carr Auditorium, SFGH, 1001 Potrero. 476-4082, ext. 84621.

Tradition

"American Realism: Past and Present" exhibition, thru 3/30. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post. 441-1138.

Tuesday 13

Monday 12

After the Apple

Surrealist nude paintings of Kim Edward Black, thru 3/2. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, # 110. 284-0567.

Lynn Borowitz

Photography exploring the transformation of the human body. Thurs Feb. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7855.

▲ Fri... Italy, 1940" his retros... Photo: Carl My...

K

▼ Friday

Fingered, one of the video shorts featured in *Girl Talk* at Diva night-club for women, at the Transmission Theatre.

**Changes of Heart**

West Coast premiere of Marivaux's 18th-century romantic comedy, adapted and directed by Stephen Wadsworth. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/23, call for times. \$28-32.50. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison, Berkeley. (510) 845-4700.

Dark Light

New photographs by Charles Getwood; also, "Low Tech/High Tech," new sculpture by Marque Cornblett. Thru 2/27. Morphos Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Love Notes

SF Winds of Freedom, the seated version of the SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, give a free concert. 8:15pm. Bethany United Methodist, 1268 Sanchez. 554-0402.

Variations

"Valentines 1996" exhibition

of photographs by Murray Rockowitz. Thru 2/28. Artemia, 2830 Baker. 351-2227.

Wild Design:

"Designs for the Wild," exhibit of fantastic yet practical designs for outdoor adventure, thru 4/16. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Women With Balls

Showcase for women stand-up comics, every Tues. \$4. 8pm. Cat's Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Wednesday 14**GAWK**

Dan Curzon reads from *Super Fag*, Jon Sugar reads from *Greetings from Miami*. Gay Artists and Writers Collective event. 7pm. Glen Park Books, 2788 Diamond. 586-3733.

Louise Bourgeois: Drawings

Major retrospective of celebrated octogenarian artist. Wed.-Sun. thru 3/24. \$6. University Art Museum, 2626 Bancroft. (510) 642-0808.

Low Cool

SF Art Institute's 125th anniversary exhibition includes Meg Mack, Paul McCarthy, Ruby Neri, opens tonight, 8pm. Tues. 3/17. Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. 749-4588.

Prodigal Son

Dance Theatre of Harlem performs Balanchine. Wed. & Thurs. at 8pm, Sat. at 2pm. \$18-32. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

Singing for Suppers

Pippy Lovestocking hosts karaoke fundraiser for Project Open Hand. Canned goods accepted at door, no cover. 9pm. The Mint, 1942 Market. 626-4726.

Sueños Prometidos

"Promised Dreams," opens "Year of the Immigrant." Collective project by photographers Virginia Benavidez, Ruben Guzman, Catalina Govea, Antonio Tovar. Thru 3/2. Galeria de la Raza/Studio 24, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

The Tempest

A.C.T.'s production of Shakespeare's play about the power of magic, dreams, and redemption. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/18, call for times. \$13-45. 8pm. Geary Theater. 405 Geary. 749-2228.

Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992

Anne Deavere Smith portrays nearly 40 real-life individuals with perspectives on the '92 uprising. Tues. 3/17, call for times. \$21.50-34. Tonight at 8pm. Marin's Mem'l Theatre, 609 Sutter. (510) 845-4700.

Twisted Pairs

Annette DiVew plays an Amish farmgirl in George Coates' latest creation, opens tonight. Fri. 8 Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/10. \$15-34. Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 863-4130.

Word of Mouth

James Lecesne's solo performance. Frankie Salzano lives in the Brooklyn house where his mother, Josie, runs a beauty parlor. 2pm. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg B, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Thursday 15**Bingo**

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. Doors 8pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 241-0425.

Black Is...Black Ain't

Marlon Riggs' documentary challenges sexism, homophobia, patriarchy. \$6. 7:30pm. Lark Theatre, 549 Magnolia, Larkspur. 924-3311.

Eight from South Africa

Sculpture and painting by eight contemporary South African artists. Tues.-Sun. thru 3/3. \$4. Center for the Arts Theater, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

The End of Print

Talk and slide presentation by David Carson, master of Gen X graphic design (*Ray Gun, Speak*). \$15. 7pm. Center for the Arts Theater, 701 Mission. 978-2787.

Eros

U.S. premiere of Maureen Fleming's artwork, text by David Henry Hwang, opens Dancers' Group/Footwork's *Edge Festival*. Thurs.-Sun. tonight at 8pm. \$12-15. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Maestro!

Exhibition of thirty prints of internationally famous conductors by SF photographer Tom Zimbroff. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/23. Free. San Francisco Performing Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

Wilfred Spoon

Still lifes, landscapes and interiors. Tues.-Sat. thru Feb. 771-0663.

Still Headin' Fo' Da' Promise Land

Afro Solo presents Thomas R. Simpson exploring the joy and pain of being a black man in the U.S. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 2/17. \$10. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

2 Boys in a Bed on a Cold Winter's Night

James Edwin Parker's comic tale, how not to behave during a one-night stand, directed by Ed Decker. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 2/17. \$12-16. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

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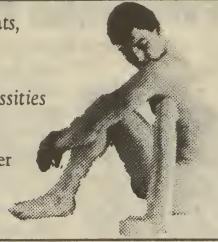
▲ Friday

"Giambologna's 'Rape of the Sabine,' Loggia dei Lanzi, Florence, Italy, 1940" by Life magazine photographer Carl Mydans, part of his retrospective *Visions of Life* at Circle Gallery. Photo: Carl Mydans, Life magazine, copyright Time, Inc.

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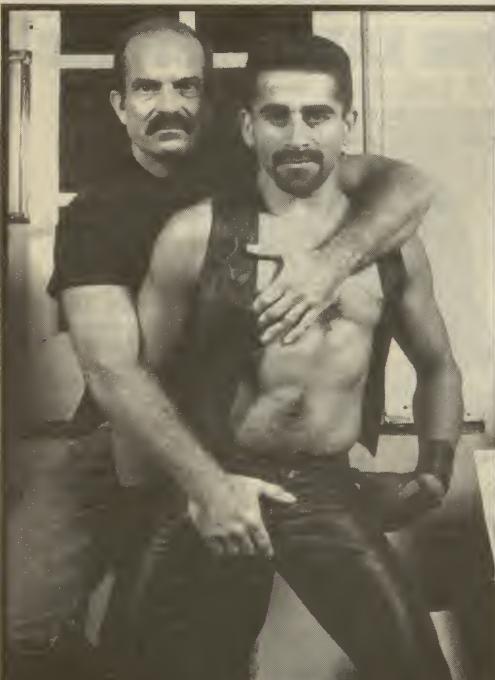
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MR. MARCUS

Mr. SF Leather Contest Set for April 20

The 18th annual Mr. San Francisco Leather Contest has been set for Saturday, April 20, at 2000 at the recently refurbished (to the tune of \$2 million) Alcazar Theater, 650 Geary St., with reserved seats at \$20/advance or \$25/door.

The seats are first-come, first-served, and you can charge the tix to your Visa, Master Card or American Express by calling (415) 974-6020, then pressing 2. Tickets go on sale February 15 and can be purchased at Mercury Mail Order (4084 18th St.) and at both Mister S Leather locations.

The Alcazar offers optimum viewing wherever you sit, so the first-come, first-served ticket plan will ensure you a choice seat. There are public parking facilities in that area. Press representatives should contact me for credentials.

The Mr. SF Leather committee is already busy, and the poster by celebrated local artist Leon Marfels will soon be on display all over town. Various bike clubs and other talents have gotten together for this event, which, as always, is a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

The emcees for this year's show are International Mr. Drummer 1989 Brian Dawson and current Ms. Southbay Leather Miranda von Stockhausen. This two-some looks like a dynamite pairing, and the committee is looking



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Intl. Mr. Drummer '89 Brian Dawson (l) and Ms. Southbay Leather '95 Miranda von Stockhausen will co-emcee the Mr. SF Leather Contest on April 20 at the Alcazar Theatre.

contests. If you're interested in competing, Daddy's Bar will pick Daddy's Mr. Leather on Wednesday, March 20, and the very next night, Thursday, March 21, Mr. SF-Eagle Leather will be chosen. Stay tuned for all the details.

The Mr. SF Leather title winner receives the usual trappings plus round-trip airfare to Chicago, hotel accommodations and cash expense money, and he'll represent our city at IML, the nation's

ous year's winners got to do the voting, this is not the case – at least not this year. The host hotel is the Radisson New Orleans, and since the departure of Luke Owens from the *TLJ* staff, the Intl. Master & Slave Contest will take place later this year in Atlanta. Good luck to all the nominees! I'll have the results for you as soon as I get them.

Last Thursday, Feb. 1, a whooping eight dudes competed in the Bare Chest Calendar contest at the Eagle for Mr. March 1997. Judges Martyn Jones, Wolf ("Cakes") Mirasol and Leslie Ewing, the new prez of the AIDS Emergency Fund, sat through and jumped into the question/answer period, and then registered their scores. The Bare Chest Chorus was in good form, and when it was over, Randy Wright of Fremont (formerly Mr. Alameda County Leather) won the spot. They'll be picking Mr. April next Thursday, Feb. 15, at 2200. See you there?

One of the community's most popular clubs, the Cal Eagles MC, celebrated its 12th anniversary last Saturday night, Feb. 3. Despite threats of rain and a fine drizzle, another huge crowd



Photo: Mr. Marcus

New AIDS Emergency Fund President Leslie Ewing (center) with Mr. March Randy Wright (l) and runner-up Steve Crouse (r) at the Bare Chest contest last Thursday, Feb. 1.

forward to having them onstage that night.

The seven judges and an alternate for this year's contest have been selected – a tough task indeed. Their identities will be announced in the April 18 edition of the *B.A.R.*, exclusively in this column.

While not yet complete, the entertainment lineup includes Richie Waites. If you were at last year's Mr. Drummer finals in September, you'll recall that Mr. Waites brought the house down with his finale act, which included the Drummer Dancers.

Most of the leather bars in San Francisco will be holding contests for men to compete in the finals, including Daddy's Bar, SF-Eagle, the Edge and the Jackhammer, plus a few other leather-oriented businesses as well. I also hear that there will be a few independent

bigest leather event.

This year, IML is again expected to have some 50 or more contestants from all over the world on Memorial Day Weekend. If you've never been, now's the time to make your plans.

Pantheon of Leather Awards

Some 53 leather personalities, groups, businesses and non-profits from the San Francisco Bay Area have been nominated in a myriad of categories for *The Leather Journal*'s big to-do in New Orleans this weekend, the Pantheon of Leather Awards, which this year includes yet another leather title contest, Mr. and Ms. Olympus Leather.

A panel of only 13 people vote on those nominated by the magazine's readers, and while it was my understanding that the previ-



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Randy Wright of Fremont, Calif., won the March '97 spot on the Bare Chest calendar last Thurs., Feb. 1.

Events in Leather

All phone numbers are in the 415 area code unless otherwise indicated.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Big basket contest at The Edge tonight with a beer bust, cash prizes and a date with The Old Bag. 2000-2400.

Friday, Feb. 9

Mardi Gras Festival at Buck's Saloon (301 Stockton) in San Jose, beginning at 2000. Carnival games, beads, prizes, drink specials, mask contest, etc. Hotline: (408) 370-6325.

Golden Gate Guards Valentine beer bust for \$6 at the Eagle, 2000-2300. If you're an Aquarian, take off \$1. Dart throwing, date(s) with GGG members.

Weekend, Feb. 9-11

Pantheon of Leather Awards at Radisson Hotel in New Orleans, including Mr./Ms. Olympus Contest. Good luck to all the nominees!

Anniversary parties (#7!) at The Cinch on Polk St. on Sat. and Sun. Buffet by Dennis "Chips and Dip" Tyler, The Mo-

tivators on Saturday; mariachi band, Wild Oats (all-girl band) on Sunday; drink specials all weekend.

Saturday, Feb. 10

Defenders/San Francisco celebrates its second anniversary, 1800-2100, at the Swedish-American Hall (2174 Market St.) and introduces its new officers. Admit by invite or club overlay. Hi, Buck! When you leaving for Amsterdam?

Leather Elegance Formal Valentine Ball at the Driftwood Lounge in Hayward, 2100, \$10. Emcees are Yvonne and Radhika. Call (510) 351-7300.

Wednesday, Feb. 14

St. Valentine's Day! Don't miss "Some Enchanted Evening, a Luau-by-the-Bay," a sumptuous buffet, 1800-2300, at Eichelberger's. This event by Daddy Cornelius and Wesley Ballard benefits the Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project, our next major civil rights battle. Hula dancers, photos atop a giant wedding cake, \$50 donation. You can reserve by calling 863-4177.

Fabled cartoonist Frisch's 10-year cartoon retrospective, a two-location show, opens tonight at Moby Dick's with a champagne reception; tomorrow (Feb. 15) night, at Daddy's Bar; and a reception at Daddy's on Sunday, Feb. 18, 1200-1500.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Mr. April on the '97 BC Calendar gets chosen at 2200 at the Eagle. Win \$100. Do your bit for the AEF. The Knights of Malta MC is supposed to be starting beer busts for \$5 at these contests beginning tonight, but no info from Linck at my deadline!

Constantines MC beer bust at Daddy's Bar, 2000-2300, \$6, with a 50/50 raffle and probably some other surprises.

Weekend, Feb. 16-19

Besides all the ICF Motorcycle Awards functions, the Bears of SF host Bear Rendezvous '96, including the Intl. Mr. Bear Contest on Sunday, Feb. 18. Full details on the whole weekend in the next issue. ▼

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Photo: Mr. Marcus

Cal Eagles' Road Captain Alden Spafford (l), re-elected Pres. Peter Haase (center) and VP Terry Kerich (right) cut the CE anniversary cake last Sat., Feb. 3, at the SF Eagle.

SWEET LIPS

Royal Promenade

Empress I Jose Sarria, a.k.a. the Widow Norton, of Black Cat fame, will be embarking on a bar tour marathon with a musical trip down memory, er, memory lane Sunday, Feb. 11. Chuck Largent is directing this scintillating extravaganza, which includes five bars, five 30-minute shows, bus transportation, food and vino for only \$25. For tickets and more information, contact Chuck at the Joe Sent Me Club, 603 Hayes St., or call 252-8950 and tell them Sweet Lips sent you! Should be a hysterically good time.

Speaking of the empress, Chef "No Count" Bill Tolani will be throwing a special thank-you party at the Gangway Wednesday, Feb. 14 (Valentine's Day), 7-10 p.m. It's his way of acknowledging all the help the Phone Booth, Hob Nob, Old Rick's and the Gangway gave him in raising funds for Jose's annual trek to Emperor Norton's Colma grave site.

Tonight, Thursday, Feb. 8, is emperor wanna-be Steve Valone's show and raffle at 8 p.m. at Kimo's Penthouse Showroom. Drop in for

a libation with this sweet guy.

Calling all cows, uh, cars: Where in the world is Vera Rose? Vote everyone's favorite cowgirl for Empress XXX on Saturday, Feb. 24. (Query: Who is Cockatelia and is it raw power she craves?) Remember to cast your ballot at one of three locations: the Embassy Lounge at Polk and Turk, 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Under One Roof at Market and Castro, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and the illustrious Eagle at 12th and Harrison, 3-6 p.m. Have a valid ID handy. (And no, deceased pets can't vote.)

Ms. Vera's whirlwind campaign includes a visit to the Gate at Pine and Jones with "Stella" at 8 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12; a Vera-Look-Alike Contest (even I can't look that scary!) at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17, at the Cinch Saloon; and later that day (8 p.m.) an open show at the Gangway.

On Wednesday, Feb. 21, all the exciting candidates will be present and accounted for at Kimo's Penthouse Showroom at 8 p.m. Come and meet them.

Yes, now that I am back tanned and terrific from my South of the

Border foray, I have returned to my bartending duties at the legendary Kimo's, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday. Rush on down for a morning eye-opener (and I ain't talking a cup of joe!) with yours truly.

Richard and Mario's ever popular Cinch Saloon is celebrating its seventh anniversary on Saturday, Feb. 10, at 3 p.m.; with a fabulous (what else?) buffet by Dennis "Canapes" Tyler. Thrill to surprise acts from 4 to 7 p.m. and live music courtesy of the Motivators at 9 p.m. On Sunday, Feb. 11, at 3 p.m., hear mariachis while sipping your margaritas, and at 6 p.m., the all-girl band, Wild Oats, takes the stage. With drink specials, natch, all weekend.

Lots of fascinating events are planned for Coronation Weekend, Feb. 29-March 3, and of course, I'll have *tout* the juicy details for the discriminating ones among you. Here's hoping to see you all around the old burg, especially you, Marlow, of Uncle Bert's on 18th Street. My eyes may be bloodshot, but they're still peeled for you! ▼

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PERFORMANCE

Kiki & Herb Together Again



Photo: Daniel Nicotera

Kiki and Herb — aka Justin Bond and Kenny Mellman — will perform *Just For You* at San Francisco's glamorous Embassy Lounge at 600 Polk St. on Friday, February 9 at 10 p.m.

Kiki and Herb's *Just For You* will be the final recording session for the upcoming live CD *Kiki and Herb: Tainted Royalty*, a recording that will show the world what we in Frisco have known all along, namely that Kiki and Herb are just plain fabu.

Described by the B.A.R.'s Chad Jones as "tortured, incoherent, hilarious, brilliant and pathetic all at once," Kiki and Herb promise an evening of stupendous entertainment steeped in love, glamour and horror. So grab \$10 and hurry down to the Embassy Lounge for what may be this duo's last appearance before they ascend into Absolute Stardom. For information, call the glorious Embassy at 885-0842. ▼

In The Life

Continued from page 47

tion's lesbian and gay school teachers, noting that last year 68 teachers lost their jobs because of their sexual orientation, thanks to an organized effort by the Radical Right.

Next, Keith Boykin, Executive Director of the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, focuses his efforts on educating communities. The group's mission is to teach people in the black community about homosex-

uality and people in the gay community about racism. Boykin's book, *One More River to Cross — Black and Gay in America*, tries to "describe what it feels like to be both black and gay." In it, he interviews several black men and women, both straight and gay, and discovers that the black community is really not as homophobic as other communities. Boykin said his group was warmly received at last year's Million Man March in Washington, D.C., where they marched together and chanted "Gay men of African descent."

February's episode of *In the Life* also focuses on the arts, with an exploration of New York City's black lesbian theater group, 'Think It's Not When It Is', which hosts sensitivity workshops focused on scripts to create a dialogue amongst its women; an interview with Oklahoma-born 1992 *Playgirl* "Man of The Year" Dirk Shafer, who discusses his autobiographical film about being outed on the set; and a look at new lesbian and gay literature being published for high school students. *In The Life* airs Wednesday, February 14 at 11 p.m. on KQED/9. ▼

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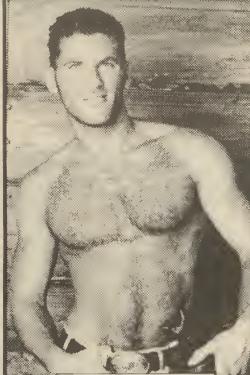
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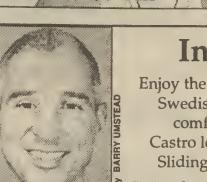


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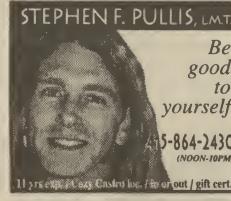
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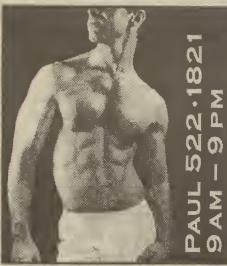
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MASSAGE

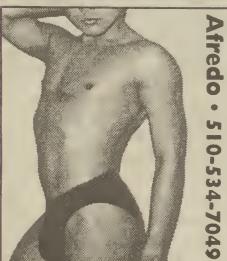
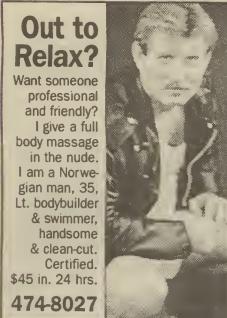
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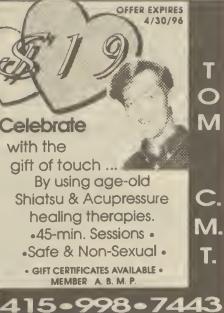


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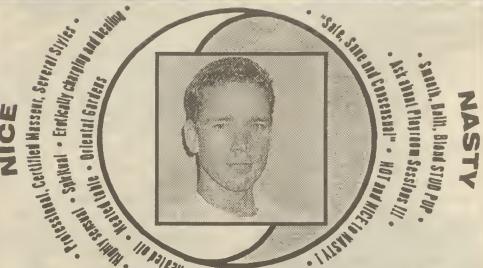


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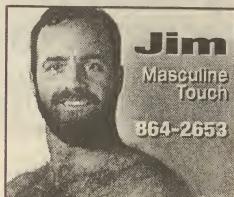
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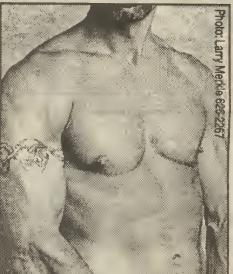
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YOUNG BEAR!!
\$40-50 * Hermann * 648-0604

Indulge in Your Well-Being
Professional, Exceptional
Italian Masssor. John, CMT,
In/Out * 708-0224 * \$40/\$60

Hot, Nude Mass by 6' 190 Lbs
Hunk Erotic Full-Body
Smooth Long Hair * 387-9451

Sensual Swedish 522-2355
LATIN COLLEGE BOY

Strong, Gentle & Sensual
Massage by Very Handsome
Man. Page 560-0564 * Ron

Deep to Gentle Massage
Complete Relief 621-7525

Sensual Bodywork Hotels
SF Residences 621-7525

Photo: Larry Marks 825-2263

KNEADFUL THINGS
346-6333
633-3466
434-6333
334-6334
633-4344
pgr. 406-6695
6695-4066

MASSAGE



STAR MASSAGE
Gary Wayne
Farris
Shiatsu/Spiritual
928-8691
Non-Sexual
In/Out

EAST BAY LAKE MERRITT
RELAXING • SENSUAL • HEALING
A Superb Massage by a
Strong, Sensitive, Nurturing,
CMT, Non-sexual, In/Out.
Jason Serinus
510-444-4169

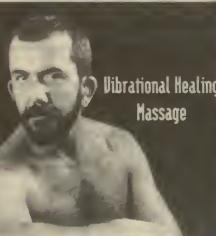


Tony -- C.M.T.
(510) 536-0539

HOT OIL EROTIC FULL BODY
STRONG HANDS HOT SKIN
40/IN
NOE VALLEY
550-8224

HEAVENLY HANDS
Heartfelt Erotic Massage
26 yo 155lbs 5'11" attractive In/Out
UPPER MARKET LOCATION
TIMOTHY B. 415.627.1743

Healing Hands
Nurturing & Relaxation
Comfortable Table
Attractive 28 yr old
Esalen ~ Deep Tissue
Castro Location
90 min. ~ \$50 in'
Matt Greenwood, CMT
Call (415) 861-1746



Vibrational Healing
Massage
Sergio 415.759.8445 CMT IN/OUT

VERY FRIENDLY SOUTHERN REDHEAD
27, 6', 180#, Muscular
Swimmer's Build & Uncut
Full-Body Deep-Tissue
Massage
CALL TRAVIS: 764-9154

New In Town
Providing outstanding massage
for over 9 years. In/Outcalls
8am-10pm will batter
Christopher Martin CMT
415 522.1116

RELAX BUT GET AROUSED
Sensual, Erotic
Nude Massage
by 27 y/o Handsome
Muscular Caring Guy
TOMAS: 661-4053

BODY WORK
Matt Flynn CMT
415.252.9661

FABULOUS FINGERS
Strong Hands
Big Hot Man
Certified
431-1930

SHAWN CMT
386-3962

Quality Swedish/Sensual
EXTENDED BLISS
to the last stroke in the
hands of a strong, caring
man. Professional. 837-7516

Very Goodlooking
MASSEUR BOY
Outcalls/Hotels
PAGER 709-1930

Drift, Dream, Escape, while
strong hands provide an
ethical, full-body massage.
Hdsm, CMT \$40/90 min. 2 Hr 60
Call (415) 431-6038

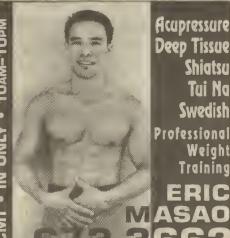
\$30 THERAPEUTIC
Non-Sexual Massage
Skilled, Sensitive, Strong
By Appt. in SAN BRUNO
Voice Mail/Pager 878-5752

Lean, Defined, Nude & 24
CANE
YOUNG, HOT MASSEUR
Outcalls/Hotels \$50
PAGER 709-1930

\$30 Complete 1 Hr. serious
pleasure msg. for your fit body.
Pro. CMT # 552-5364

Swedish Oil & Deep Tissue
HANDSOME, YOUNG JOCK
Evenings and Weekends
CRAIG (415)541-6027 OUT\$55

HOT STRONG SEXY
LATINO STUD
Certified * 560-1351

CMT • IN ONLY • 10AM-10PM

Acupressure
Deep Tissue
Shiatsu
Tui Na
Swedish
Professional
Weight
Training
ERIC MASAO
673-3662

B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS



LOUIS
CERTIFIED THERAPIST

TANTRIC MASSAGE
415 - 863 - 4783

TOM
10am-11pm
MARIN/SF



MASSAGE
by Latino

\$45-1 hour In
(Call Back Required)
Pager(415)219-3372

MIKE
928-3199
MASSAGE

28 YO Nude Pro Safe Scenes
Total pleasure * 621-7525

Light, Sensuous, Fullbody
Wk - butt included - by young
cute, husky bear. * 765-7625

Deep-tissue erotic bodywork
\$45/in, \$65/Out, 9am-9pm
VM/Page 415-437-2688 * Dave

Slim, Smooth Guy Gives
DEEP TOUCH
In Marin. Andy * 461-4135



MIKE
ULTIMATE SENSUAL MASSAGE
641-0780

LATINO
genuinely handsome
smooth muscular fine
FULL BODY
MASSAGE
206-9693 24HR

SERIOUS BODYWORK

Enjoy the pleasure and relief of a
genuine, professional massage
that gets right into those aching
muscles. Strong, muscular CMT
with table gives a phenomenal
treatment integrating deep tissue,
sports & Swedish. Call Jim at
415-928-7646 or 1-800-928-8974

EROTISAGE
A unique, sensual massage.
Takes a load off your mind.
Andy (510) 481-2513. Late O.K.

Deep-Tissue Massage
Voted Best of Denver
CMT. Non-sexual. Bob 255-1575

B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

MODELS/ESCORTS

FRAT MAN
Masculine, Horse-Hung Jock
Athletic Build • Friendly
Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
Greg 415-861-7399 \$90

Friendly 26 y/o Farm Boy
SOUTHERN GUY
Great Smile, Pretty Mouth
CornFed S.U.S.D.A. Prime, Uncut
HorseDick. In Only. Tue-Fri
SAM * 929-1079

Southern Beau Sweet & Sexy
25 y/o 5'9" 140 Lbs of hot fun
Safe Scenes, Cuddly & Kinky
RALEIGH * 313-2109

Husky, handsome, Non-Jaded
Bear Top-WS/FF etc 708-8002

LATINO 24 HOURS
(415) 929-3817

26 y/o, tall, handsome, lean
HUNG BADBOY TOP
Get what you really want!
Kal * (415) 764-6627

HOT STUD
20 yrs old * 10"
303-7931

Stud Boys
Top Anal Masters
Asian - German
605-0281

BLACK BY TWO

2 strong, hard tops
20 in. combined, both @ 30 yrs
old, 170#, dom & verbal.
Pgr: 607-1709. Ty

Fantasy Boy Punk Kid
WILD 18 Y/O

Tell me your fantasy - I'll
make it real! Great imagination.
Hot, Lean body.
Page: 764-7296

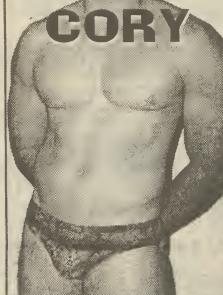
UNCUT, VERSATILE
Bottom 18yo/ Angelic
Magical, healing intimacy
Call Gabriel-Pager 253-6048

ZACH NEW
Blk, Blu All-American Jock
Muscular, Sexy, \$150
Outcalls. Pgr: 985-3188

24HRHANDSOME

Prince will take your breath
away! 22 y/o, affectionate lover
massages & satisfies fetishes &
fantasies. In/Out. 487-7662

FINE BOY NEXT
DOOR, 9" SMOOTH
\$100/Hr * 605-0903



CORY

Very friendly Very Masculine
Outcalls and Travel OK

208 - 5496

BLACK BY DEMAND

Tough dominant gdkg man
6'1", 170#, Hard 10 In.

Verbal & Commanding

Pager: 607-1709

Hot Bottom Gets You Off!!
\$100/in, \$125/Out. 9AM-9PM

VM/Page 415-437-2688-DAVE

TOP BOY
WORKS HARD

24, 5'9", LtBrn/Blu
Hung 10" x 6"
Lean, Smooth, Cute, Hot

BRETT: Pgr. 739-9854

Hot Sexy Naked FB Massage
by Tall G/L Masculine Man
TATTOOED & PIERCED
Available for Massage and
Your Other Desires. In/Out
Fee Neg. * 647-5038 *Call Now!

Rock Hard Erotic Blond
SCULPTURED STUD

Quality. Daniel * 626-7684

CUTE SKATE PUNK
Hot to Thrash on Yuppies
Way kinky, Way passionate

(415) 245-9776

BLACK ITALIAN

19 Y/O Party Boy
520-4269

NATIONWIDE PROFESSIONAL MALE MODELS
LISTING SERVICE
LISTEN TO AD'S LEFT BY THE HOTTEST MODELS
OR LEAVE YOUR OWN!
BULLETIN BOARDS BY REGION

1-900-740-TOOL

MODELS INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING ON LINE CALL 1-800-759-8255 PIN# 505-TOOL
ADULTS ONLY / \$3 PER MINUTE

MODELS/ESCORTS

B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

S/M SENSUALITY

-long, & slow-my specialty. 6'2", 185, strong, gymaned master into all aspects & degrees of leatherplay. S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch. **Lord 431-0959**

butch look
522-2306

6'1"- 190# - 5'
muscular hairy
masculine good looks

TOM



ORAL SLAVE

Hot Mouth, Deep Throat
Available evenings & weekends
Gdkg Bld, 5111, 160, 35, \$50
Pager: 496-0156

E07



Smooth, Cute, Lean 5'10", 150#
Whiteboy, 26 Versatile & Discreet
for Hot Eves & Wknds
Outcalls * Matt* Pgr 208-1165

E06

FF, TT, B/D, Toys, Sling &
Husky Dad Top. Fisting expert
\$70 hr, \$30 ea add'l 1/2 hr.
(Larger pig-outs arrngd, price
varies.) * 861-2668

E06

PARTY GUY "9"
Call: 775-4771 * 24 Hours

E06

HOT RUSSIAN
8 1/2" Uncut, Dominant Top
All Scenes * Pgr 560-9499

E07

BLACK GOLD
220 Lb Body Builder
10", Call Lasalle * 431-5923

E06

Friendly * Hot * Muscular
MARIN STUD
32, 6', 175#, blk/Br, 679-3695

E06

TWENTY FIVE YEARS

E08

Blond Long Hair, 22, Cute
6', Smooth, Hung, 522-1736

E06

Hot Hawaiian-Jap Pornstar.
2 rockhard, smooth globes of
buttl 28, 24hr, 328-5304

E06

Mike (415) 863-8932
30, 5'10", 200#, blk/blu,
clean cut, muscle hunk. In/Out 100

E06

ITL BODYBUILDER
Wrestler, 5'8", 215lbs, br hair
eyes, exc. shape, 30" waist, 19"
arms - 415 only 100 out.
(415) 923-8297

E06

Wrestling & S/M
Heavy-Light Fantasy
Hot Switch - Kevlar
Pager (415) 245-5774

E06

6'3" MUSCLE MAN
Pager: 270-4152

E06

High Colonics * 241-0567

E06

18 Y/O KINK
WM Tall Hung Top, will do
your kinks, fantasies. Call:
David * (415) 333-4304

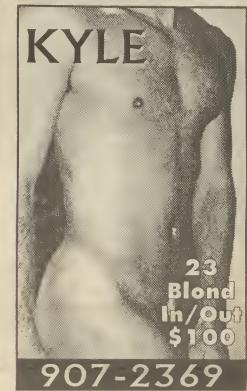
E06

Hot Latino, 35 y/o
FISTING TOP
Small experienced hands.
In/Out. Page Bruno: 807-3684

E06

Hot, blond stripper - Kinky
Top, \$85. Julian * 863-4269

E06



ATTENTION!

THE POWERFUL MASTER in Town
HOT, HAIRY, DOMINANT

Experienced, Most Scenes
Fully Stocked Private Playroom



TOM 487-1296

BB Bottom In/Marin, Out/Bay
Area. Ted * (415) 459-3488

E13

Walnut Creek's
BLACK LUV TOY
\$30/\$60 * (510) 840-7428

E07

Don't Let the Cold Get U.
Feel the tropical heat
EDUARDO

25 y/o Hot Latino
(415) 527-5334

E06

For Mature, Older Men
FRIENDLY
Cute, Bright, Sincere
26 y/o Providing Intimacy
TOM * 406-8401

E06

100% SMOOTH
Hard muscle, Shaved Head
No Body Hair Naturally
(415) 522-2363

E06

Hot, Hairy & Thick 22 y/o
Alec * \$100*In/Out*239-HOTF

E07

**** EXOTIC MALES ****
GOLDEN BOYZ!
552-6677 * Bay Area * In/Out

E06

Brandon 303-2782 in/out 24 hrs
HOT BLONDE
Young-n-Hung*Tan*Built
Gr Eyes*Sex-y*Versatile *

E06

Sexy Private Strip Show
JEFF * 267-7751

E06



\$25 for 18-25 yo XXX Rub by
Hung Stud 33 Oral 708-3325

E06

My Hands ... Your Hungry
Butt * 621-7525

E06

Uncut Hot Kinky w/Toys, Ver.
Butch w/buddy 4 3-ways. Joe
Pager 313-1356. Out Only

E06

Hot Blond Muscle Boy, 29
Sexy, Solid & Trim
Hung 8X6, 5'10", 155#, Smooth
JAKE * Page: 709-0338

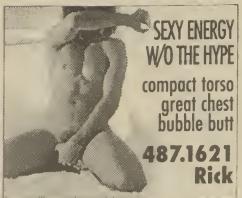
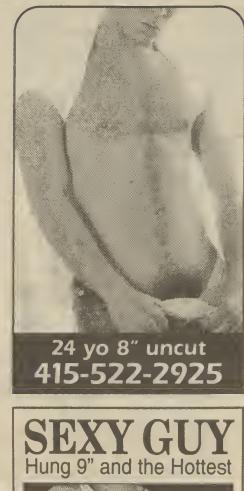
E07

Incredible Looks * 245-6911
HUNG & BLACK

E06

Hot, blond stripper - Kinky
Top, \$85. Julian * 863-4269

E06



TOP DRAWER
Athletic Body, Handsome
Face, Bulging Boxers
Masculine 25 yo * 905-8838

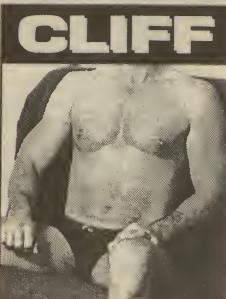
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More Than Just a Big Dick!
TALENTED TOP
36 yo, 6'2", 170#, Sexy, Gdkg
Masculine Sensual Friendly
John * (510) 595-0686

E06



CLIFF



6'3" 200lbs
pager#
415-270-4152

ENERGETIC 18 YEAR OLD
Lean Hot Sensual Smooth
Page Me Evenings
and Weekends @ 749-9384

SERIOUS MUSCLE
Real B.B., Thick, Ripped!
Handsome, Hung 9", 337-4364

LEATHERMAN
Bondage-SM-Whips-Kink!
Gdkg Topman - Your Fantasy
My Talent*JACK*(415) 270-4496

FALCON MODEL

HUNG XTRA THICK TOM CHASE
Serious Bodybuilder - 5'10"
170lbs
44 ch, 30 w, 16 a
Dark Brown Hair & Eyes
Clean Shaven,
Very Good Looking,
Solid Muscle, Smooth Body,
Washboard Abs 10.5" Cut
Page me -
1-800-985-0561

220 lbs.
of

LATIN MUSCLE

19 1/2" Arms
29" Thighs
52" Chest

FABIO BEEPER

1-800-731-3799

ITALIAN BODY
Body Builder, 230 Lbs.
6'1", 50" Ch, 20" A
25 Years Old
From Italy
207-9337

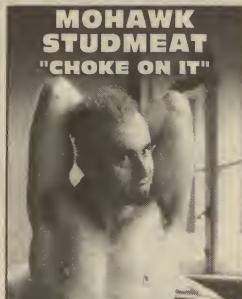
YELLOW HANKY
Masc. 35 Y/O Top * 605-1383

DAVID



TALL
HAIRY
HUNG
863-4847

MOHAWK STUDMEAT "CHOKE ON IT"



6'1" 180 lbs 8" 26
JOSH PORN STAR
415-303-9320

Distinguished Age 40
Handsome Hung 8" & Thick
\$60 * DAVE * 922-3924

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817

Spank & Padding * Kory
Safe Fantasies * 773-9130

Kicks Back for Service 24 Hrs
10"X6" UNCUT
Big, Fat Tool. Pager: 678-1005

Attractive, Young
BRAZILIAN
5'6", 145, 8x6" Uncut
Tom 280-4199

Best Lay - Low Pay
"Top" Secret
One of the Biggest and Best
Butt-Busting Tools of the Trade
865-0144

**21 y.o. Outcalls
Joe 923-8601**



Safe * Sane * Respectful
BLACKTOP
Dominant * 8" * All Scenes
Pager: 245-2557

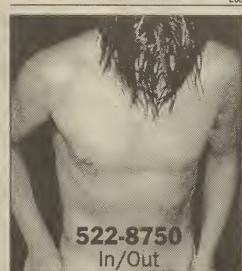
Attr. Young Southeast Asian
Top, 28, 5", 135 * 674-8458

Sadistic Tickle Top * 928-3199

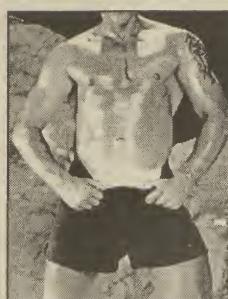
Cleancut Grad Student
Brown, Blue, Irish & German
Defined Muscular Body
Call: Jason 24 Hrs * 541-5002

HOTEL CALLS
Extremely cute 24, 6'1" 175#
8 1/2" Smth, Vers. Todd 764-9197

522-8750
In/Out



SONOMA COUNTY DADDY—S & M MASTER
Come to this secluded spot out in the country and
surrender. Give yourself up to the power of masculine
energy. Let yourself be dominated by an experienced and
highly-trained master who knows what you want and
will give it to you—slowly, sensuously, and powerfully.
LUKE (707) 824-8040



Blond German
Karl 709-0055

Excruciating...
Short, muscular, 41 yr. old sadist,
dominant and expert with secure
bondage, and prolonged,
imaginative genital torture.
(415) **626-3034 Roger**

HOT & HUNG
21 Y/O LONGHAIR STUD
IN/OUT CALLS ASK 4 MIKEY
415-771-7591 PGR 698-3255

SPICY HOT ASIAN



LI CHAN * pgr# **202-6876**

Very Built 24 yr old
Very Masculine
Seth • 749-9670

6'3", 200, 30 y/o, goatee, Br/Bi
Hot Junior Exec!!

Hung & Vers! 24 Hrs 921-8607

DOM.SKINHEAD
Takes You Down * 621-5016
Uniforms/Leather/SM/B&D &....?

BI/BI 5'11" 165# Very Masculine

My dungeon(\$100) or Out(\$125)

10AM-10PM Only. KARL

E06

UNCUT BIKERSTUD
Hung Big - Low Hangers.
Handsome, Aggressive
Topman!!!

Built, Friendly, Dominant!
Verbal, Open-Minded, 24 Hrs.
Craig \$80/in (415) 255-TOPP

Tony
4871379

Exhibit Design: JCL-1541

GOLDEN
Affectionate, Passionate Bottom Boy
Blond, Blue, Tan, Toned, Collegiate
Satisfy Your Desires with Scorpion Fire
\$150/2 hours out - Adam 406-7702

6'3" 240 lbs



Very Built 24 yr old
Very Masculine
Seth • 749-9670

6'2", 235 Lbs., Blk, BB, Super
Safe Exhib Muscle Worship

52°C, 21"A, Mega Dk

11X8" 863-4847

Or Dble Up With My Tall, Hry,

Hung, Buddie. Straight/Bi O.K.

E06

9X6 24-HOURS
Call: 775-4771 * 24 Hours

22 Yr Old Energetic Blk Man

Easy to Talk to.

Handsome, slim-built and Hung

Extremely Top. Out Only.

Cedric * Page (510) 639-6576

E06

Don't Look Any Further

Very handsome Mediterranean

look, dark hair, green/hazel eyes

5'11", 172, Big, Thick Rod.

Gorgeous Butt, Intelligent,

Pleasant Personality

Versatile. Pager: 560-0564

E06

KURT
4159986514



6 ft 180 Br/Br 28 Yr
Lightly Hairy Chest

Smooth, Cute Puerto Rican
18 Y/O SEX TOY
Carlos * Page: (415) 202-1151

E06

Sexy Goodlooking Tom

HOT ASIAN

Pgr: 280-3735. Ph: 860-7311

E06

TALL, HOT, HAIRY, HAND-SOME, HORSE-HUNG

6'3" M, 195 LBS., BR/BLU

BEEFY, LONG-LASTING STUD

DAVID * 863-4847

E06

6'2", 235 Lbs., Blk, BB, Super

Safe Exhib Muscle Worship

52°C, 21"A, Mega Dk

11X8" 863-4847

Or Dble Up With My Tall, Hry,

Hung, Buddie. Straight/Bi O.K.

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9X6 24-HOURS

Call: 775-4771 * 24 Hours

22 Yr Old Energetic Blk Man

Easy to Talk to.

Handsome, slim-built and Hung

Extremely Top. Out Only.

Cedric * Page (510) 639-6576

E06

Don't Look Any Further

Very handsome Mediterranean

look, dark hair, green/hazel eyes

5'11", 172, Big, Thick Rod.

Gorgeous Butt, Intelligent,

Pleasant Personality

Versatile. Pager: 560-0564

E06

THE MEN'S CLUB
EXCLUSIVE MALE ESCORTS

FEATURING:

SEAN
BLOND BURFED NORDIC GOD
25 AWESOME TORSO 6' 180LBS

MAX
HOT YOUNG ASIAN OF TAI DECENT
BEAUTIFUL SMILE AND VERY SEXY!!

CHRISTIAN
MASCULINE EURASIAN STUDBOY
18 VERY ATHLETIC, GREAT LEGS
5'7" 140LBS

CHAD
HOT HUNTINGTON BEACH SURFER
22 BLONDE & BLUE
GYM TONED & TAN

REX MANN
HANDSOME, MASC. SENSUAL
EUROSTYLE LOOK
5'11" CHISELED FACE,
TAN & RIPPED 160LBS

Now hiring
Boys that stop traffic! Call 974-9073
415. 346. 3311
Hours: 10 am to 4 pm

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX

MODELS/ESCORTS

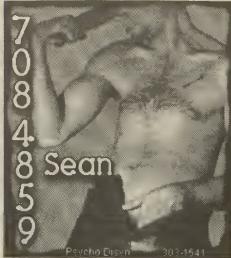
B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

young
smooth
inches **10"**
Done 415.263.0585

**IF YOU LIKE 'EM HUNG
THEN I'M THE ONE!**
Hot guy next door treats you right!
Br. hair, Br. eyed.
Horseshoe Top Studpoker. 24 Hrs.
Buddy \$85 (415) 861-7399

BIG TROUBLE
YOUNG ♦ HUNG ♦ TOP
SCOTT
1.800.484.6946 EXT. 2271

ROUGH N' TOUGH
22, Blond, Hairy, Wrestler's Build
Aggressive, Safe, Kinky
Peter 313-4706



7
0
8
4
8 Sean.
5
9

Psycho Dancer 303-1541

Anthony
Photo: RAM STUDIOS
6'2
8 1/2 x 6
27 y.o.
415.861.6027
Serving all bay areas

Keer
Photo: RAM STUDIOS
Pagan Monk
Have a religious experience
565-5545 VM+Pgr.

**Sensual, Erotic Stud
WAY HOT!!!
TOP**
• Naturally smooth, lean,
muscular bod
• Exceptional Good Looks!
• Dk brn hair/Blue eyes
• 25 y.o., 6', 175 lbs.
• Masculine & Hung
outcalls only
\$120 Nick: 678-1153

9 X 7 Thick & Juicy Cornfed
Cowpole * Erik * 527-1156

JUST DO IT!
AUSTIN
4
2
1
•
8
7
7
3
26yo • \$100
OUT ONLY

BRYAN
PHOTO: LARRY MERKLE 810-2827
sensual...
DOMINANT
CALL pgr 560-9478

**GET
NAILED**

Masculine,
Dominant Top

6' tall great body hung 8" & thick.
Mature man/hotel calls welcome
Page Kurt @ 201-7189
\$100 in/out

EAT AT PETE'S

Big hangers, Great Butt
6'2" Masculine Hairy Blond
Open 24 Hrs. 861-5827

Private J/O Strip Show
Rates adjust to time.

10-15 minutes \$20 (In only)
20-25 Min \$30 In \$50/Out
30 Min. & Up: \$40 in \$60 Out
Tall Lean, Hung MATT 552-7224

Foot Fetish Bpr 834-8170

HIRE MAN
6'4" 195# Blond/Blu Hairy
Pretty Hose & Lug Nuts
Luke * 24 Hrs Pgr: 605-4013

ITALIAN STUD - NEW AD.
Tight built, laid-back, lean
smooth & Masculine. Best of All,
Hung ... Like A Stallion!
Mario * \$85 * (415) 255-8677

Tit Nipple Pec Massage
Relax*Unwind* 773-9130/Kory

20 Y/O ITALIAN BOY
Very Cute & Athletic
Hot Butt and Body
Pager: 837-9456

STALLION
BP# 807-5690

415-N80-3107
Photo: Harbour Studios

Jeff
(415) 386-7507
\$100 Out

Bay Area Reporter Classified Order Form

DEADLINE for each Thursday's paper is **NOON MONDAY**.

Payment **MUST** accompany ad. No ads taken over the telephone.

If you have a question, call (415) 861-5019. Display Rates Provided Upon Request.

D-Bold Stops Here ▼ Bold Stops Here ▼ Caps Stop Here ▼ Regular Stops Here ▼

Indicate
D-Bold,
Bold, Caps,
or Regular
Here ▼

Rates

First Line (Regular).....\$4.50
All Subsequent Lines.....\$3.00
CAPS.....Double Price

BOLD.....Double Price

D-BOLD.....Triple Price

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- Cash
- Money Order
- Personal Check
- Visa
- Master Card

(Minimum \$10 charge
on Visa and Master Card.)

Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Name _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Number of Issues _____ Classification _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Deliver or mail with payment to: Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth St., SF CA 94103

When too much is not enough...

2 DAY PASS

Big Sexual Appetite?

choose from our **HUGE** menu!

8 different bulletin boards

2 one-to-one connections

wet dream story feature

Free Access for frequent users!!
call 415-398-1616 for details

24 hour Free Listings!!
call 415-398-1616 USE PIN number 94602

48 hours 3.95

24 hours just 2.95

Sex Connect

1 900 505 2222

ADULTS ONLY GAY OWNED & OPERATED CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS 212-688-4934

NO HOLES BARRED !

KINK
RAUNCH
SLEAZE

DOWN & DIRTY

CHEAP !

12 HOURS for \$ 1.95

- HOT ONE TO ONE
- BULLETIN BOARDS

FREE PIN NUMBERS MON THRU THURS 6PM
CALL 415 398 2600 ENTER PIN # 93602
*NOTE PIN #'S AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

HARDCORE

1 · 9 0 0 · 5 0 5 · 3 3 3 3

WHERE LIMITATIONS DISAPPEAR

ADULTS ONLY GAY OWNED & OPERATED CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS 212-688-4934